

The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Friday the 24th March 1922, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR AVARGAL, K C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND XIX—AGRICULTURE—*cont.*

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“The Council will resume discussion of Demand XIX—Agriculture.”

Motion 586.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

586. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,200 for duty allowance to additional assistant to the Director.*

“I do not think I need say much on this point. The hon. the Home Member challenged the House to decide on the motion before it yesterday regarding the duty allowance to the personal assistant to the Director and as a result of the decision already arrived at, both the House and the Government are morally responsible to accept this motion. I request the House to pass this motion.”

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—“I do not think there was any question of challenge by my hon. Colleague, but he was only speaking of a paper which reached his hands; otherwise the discussion would not have taken place. So far as the resolution now before the House is concerned, it is more or less the same as was discussed yesterday, and since the House decided for the omission yesterday, I do not propose to object to the motion now.”

The motion was put and carried.

Motions 587 and 588.

The following motion standing in the name of Mr. T. C. Tangavelu Pillai being identical fell through in consequence :—

587. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,200 for duty allowance to additional assistant.*

The following motion was not made :—

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—

588. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,000 for travelling allowance by Rs. 400.*

Motion 589.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

589. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 73,887 for Agricultural College by Rs. 18,000.*

“My object in moving this resolution is to draw the attention of the hon. the Minister for Development to what I consider to be a superfluous establishment for the Agricultural College. In 1919-20 we had one Principal and Superintendent on Rs. 500—50—1,000, one Assistant Principal

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [24th March 1922]

on Rs. 500 and one lecturer in engineering on Rs. 400. In 1920-21 instead of one assistant principal, we have two men on Rs. 500 and Rs. 400, respectively, the others remaining as usual. In 1921-22 there appears to have been some rearrangement of work. The Principal who was till then called Superintendent also, appears at least in the budget merely as Principal on Rs. 1,500 per month. I do not know if the omission of the word 'Superintendent' means that his work was reduced in any appreciable way. He was assisted by a Vice-Principal and an Assistant Principal. In the budget for 1922-23 there is no addition to the Principal, Vice-Principal, and Assistant Principal. The appointment of a lecturer in agricultural engineering still continues though the pay is shown in another page. I think, Sir, that either the appointment of the Principal or that of the Vice-Principal may be done away with. I do not know what amount of teaching work the Principal and the Vice-Principal respectively have. I am of opinion that, in addition to the few hours of teaching work they may have in the college, they may well attend to research work also. So if there is any chance of a vacancy occurring either in the place of the Principal or that of the Vice-Principal, I think it need not be filled up and the work may be redistributed so that an additional appointment may be unnecessary."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU:—"So far as these additional appointments are concerned, they are really no additional appointments at all. The Principal and the Vice-Principal were already there. It so happened that the Principal went on leave and so there was some saving under that head. As regards the Assistant Principal, I may bring to the notice of the hon. Member that he should have been strictly called an assistant professor and not assistant principal. As regards agricultural engineering, agricultural teaching must necessarily include some teaching in agricultural engineering because the students should have to know the various implements essential for cultivation and unless the students are taught something of agricultural engineering they will be under practical difficulties. I may bring to my hon. Friend's notice that formerly there were three classes, whereas now we have five. The two new classes have reference to the new course that has been introduced. The college will be affiliated to the University of Madras very soon. Several hon. Members of the House have pressed upon me the need for such affiliation. That is going to happen very soon and the matter is with the University and I understand orders will be passed shortly. New classes have been opened and that accounts for a little more expenditure. As a matter of fact, my hon. Friend may also see that whereas the expenditure under the votable list was Rs. 81,000 previously, this year it is only Rs. 73,000. I may also bring to the notice of my hon. Friend that the Poona College, which I suppose does not compare so favourably with ours—I do not refer to the Pusa College—costs Rs. 1,39,000 whereas our college cost us only one lakh and fifteen thousands. I therefore think that my hon. Friend will be satisfied with the information."

Mr V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDAR:—"Sir, I have to say a few words on the general administration of the department."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU:—"Probably, Sir, the proper place for my hon. Friend to make his remarks on the general administration of the whole department will be at the end when motions for reduction of the total grant are taken up. I only suggest this to him."

24th March 1922]

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think the hon. Member can speak about the Agricultural College now and reserve his remarks about the general administration till the motions for reduction of the total grant are taken up."

Mr. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDAR:—"I will then reserve my remarks to the end, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU:—"Sir, I should like to make a few observations on this question of the Agricultural College. Reference has been made by the hon. the Minister to a proposal to affiliate this college to the University. Perhaps hon. Members are aware that the proposal has already been approved by the Senate and I do not know whether the decision of the Senate has reached the Government. My point however, Sir, is this. The Royal Commission on the Public Services has recommended that agricultural education should be so improved and so expanded and brought up to the highest standard of European or American efficiency as to permit the recruitment of agricultural officers entirely from this country. And this was more than ten or twelve years ago when the report was under consideration. I submit, Sir, that neither the Secretary of State nor the Government of India have taken any steps in this direction up to the present day. Now that subject is a transferred subject and is entirely under the control of this Council, and I sincerely trust that there will be no more delay in making agricultural education efficient so as to furnish other than merely agricultural officers receiving agricultural training. The aim and object of the Agricultural Department as hitherto managed by Government has been merely to manufacture officials and to give agricultural education only to such number of persons as is necessary to maintain the department. That ideal ought to be given up entirely and it should be the aim and policy of the Ministry of Agriculture to provide the necessary facilities for the highest form of agricultural training in this country not only of the collegiate type but also of the lower type of agricultural education. I have had the opportunity recently of looking into the question somewhat more fully than I had previously done and I am more than ever convinced that the first necessity of the situation in this country is to expand agricultural education to the highest standard prevailing in western countries more especially in view of this ultimate idea of recruiting agricultural officers entirely here. There is no question of principle involved. There is absolutely no justification for any recruitment outside this country in this matter. This matter has already been fully considered by the Royal Commission on Public Services and they have once for all laid down that the recruitment of agricultural officers should be done in this country and that a beginning should be made by expanding these colleges. Sir, as to how it can be done, as to whether there should be an agricultural college of the highest standard of efficiency in each province or whether there should be a central institution financed by more than one Provincial Government or whether it should be done by expanding the central institutions at Pusa is a matter for the Provincial Government and the Government of India. I do not propose to deal with that aspect of the matter. It is a costly business, no doubt, to bring the agricultural colleges to the highest standard of efficiency prevailing elsewhere. That is a matter to be negotiated between the several Provincial Governments. Therefore, Sir, while not objecting to this grant, it seems to me, Sir, that we have to go still further and much further than has hitherto been done in the matter of agricultural education."

[24th March 1922]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, the hon. the Minister has told us that the college is, so to speak, being reorganized, and I do not know if in connexion with that rearrangement of work the present staff will be necessary. I wanted to know whether there was enough work for them at present, what they are teaching and all that; but anyhow, in view of the fact that the college is going to be placed on a different basis, I do not press this motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 590.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

590. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,31,040 for salaries for research institute by Rs. 1,000.*

" Before proceeding further, let me once for all say, Sir, that it is not my intention either in making this speech, or in any other speech which I have made, so far as the agricultural college and the department of agriculture is concerned, to say anything against them or against the amount of money that is spent on them. But many of us are certainly against whatever may be found to be a waste in this or in any other allied department. If I now say a few words, Sir, it is only just to place the matter before the hon. the Minister so that he may take any further action which may be necessary in regard to it. So far as this branch of the department is concerned, we need hardly say that the whole country is interested, as the hon. Member Mr. Ramachandra Rao said, in the development of agriculture in all its various forms. In one of the anniversary meetings of the college, we had to express our regret that in these budget discussions we could not at all move for any increase, and we were then advised that it might be done by way of a resolution. But we did not want to move any resolution for increasing the expenditure, because there is the hon. the Minister in charge of this department who takes a good deal of interest in its development and there is also the Director who has got experience in this matter, and if they move for any additional grants, the House will be most willing to sanction the required grants.

" As regards the work done in the research institute, the hon. the Minister gave us on a previous occasion a list of the work done by some of these special experts. I do not charge him with anything, but I may add that, just as a dramatist throws down the curtain when the play has just come to an end and he has nothing more to show, the hon. the Minister threw down his paper. So far as the mycologist is concerned, the hon. Member gave a number of instances where he has done very good work. I admit all that. It may be, Sir, that he is an Indian, or it may be that it is a special department in which he has got much scope to do work, but there is no doubt that the mycologist has done excellent work. I had opportunities of examining his laboratory and some other works he has done and I must say that he has so far done very good work.

" So far as the entomologist is concerned, I have got, Sir, some complaints. I have mentioned them both before this House and in the agricultural college itself. The entomologist is a European and an English-trained specialist. He has got two gazetted assistants and two non-gazetted assistants. But, so far as his work is concerned, I hope the hon. the Minister

24th March 1922] [Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar]

will be able to-day to give us the results that have been so far achieved by his department. I know the hon. Member will be able to say that he has examined so many cotton worms, that he has examined so many other worms connected with other diseases, but what I want to know is, and I will be very glad if some such information is forthcoming that as regards any worm which he has so far examined, any specific remedy has been found out to prevent any particular disease, something other than the usual remedy of saying, 'take away all the plants and there will be an end of the disease.' So far as this department is concerned, we blame it for not becoming more popular and for not doing sufficient work to make the people go to it. But so far as we here are concerned, we can only request the hon. the Minister to remember the proverb that 'if the mountain will not go to the Prophet, the Prophet must go to the mountain'. The people are not in a mood to go to the Agricultural College; we must make the college go to the people. As I have said, the best way to do this will be to have something like itinerary farms by which these people may go to a village, stop there for about 15 days, then move on to another village and then revisit them after six months or so. So far as this particular Entomological department is concerned, the two diseases that are particularly noticeable in the Coimbatore district are, one as regards cotton and the other as regards betel vine. So far as the betel vine is concerned, there is one important thing which goes to make this department most unpopular. There are two branches of this department, the Entomological or the Research department and the general department. I brought this disease as regards the betel vines to the notice of the Entomologist through the Director of Agriculture. After a few days of investigation, there came a memorandum from the Director of Agriculture saying that the worm had nothing to do with that disease and that the whole trouble was due to some defects in cultivation. Thereafter he asked the Assistant Director of Industries to investigate into this matter. The Assistant Director of Industries then told me that it had absolutely nothing to do with any defect in cultivation and that the disease was due to the worms and that therefore if anything had to be done, it could not be done by the general department but only by the Entomological department. Thus, so far as the public are concerned, it does not really matter for them whether the Entomologist finds out the remedy or the general department. I know personally from various experiments made that whereas in places where these worms existed the sugarcane cultivation was very bad, the cultivation was certainly better in the adjacent fields where they did not exist. So, that is a sure proof that the disease is brought about by the presence of these worms only. Hence I believe the hon. the Minister will be conferring a great boon on the public if he were to direct the Entomologist to enter into this matter very carefully, and to devote some particular time with a view to destroy these worms and not to say simply after one or two years that they spent a lot of time and money over it, but that the worm did not yield to them and therefore that it had nothing to do with the disease. In Coimbatore this betel vine cultivation and the sugarcane cultivation was going on in very many places, but the cultivation has now considerably fallen owing to this disease and the rents of landlords also were falling. Mr. Macmichael once said while presiding over a meeting in that college that the department had nothing to do with the increase of rents, but I don't think he was correct for the yields will have to be increased if there is to be an increase in the rates. The fact is, Sir, that the betel vine disease is a dangerous one so far

[Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar] [24th March 1922]

as the Coimbatore district is concerned. The disease is affecting that particular crop as well as the sugarcane cultivation very seriously, and both of these are very valuable crops in the Coimbatore district. Therefore if proper attention is directed towards this, the department will be doing excellent work.

"Only one other thing I have to say with regard to sugarcane. I do not know why the sugarcane expert has been taken away from the Provincial Government. We had one sugarcane expert and an assistant sugarcane expert before under this Government. Now it has become an Imperial matter. No doubt the Imperial experts will be devoting some attention so far as this Presidency also is concerned, but what I want the hon. the Minister to see is whether it would not be more desirable to have at least an assistant sugarcane expert here who will be able to devote his time fully so far as this Presidency is concerned. Sugarcane is a very valuable crop here. The Imperial duty on sugarcane is likely to be increased, or it has been increased already by this time. There will be a great demand for the swadesi manufacture. In addition to the question of jaggery, which I hope in due time the hon. the Minister for Excise will deal with, sugarcane is another important source of sugar and any attempt made to improve the sugarcane cultivation and any amount of money spent on it will, I am sure be amply justified. Therefore we want a sugarcane expert also, an assistant or somebody else, who would be able to devote his full time towards this. The hon. the Minister may say that the present Imperial sugarcane experts also are devoting a lot of their time towards this Presidency, but we want a man who could devote his time fully towards this Presidency, and I hope the hon. the Minister will see to that, if possible.

"As I have already said, it is not at all our intention to curtail any of the work or expenditure in this direction, but what I want to say is this: This Agricultural College and the Research Institute are situated in the same building, or at least in adjacent buildings and as such, much can be done to utilize the time of the experts also more in connexion with the teaching in the college. That will also show us some means of retrenchment without in any way impairing efficiency. Therefore, if there is any vacancy either in the college or in the institute, the hon. the Minister will consider the desirability of putting the same person on to the college as well, as it is being done in some cases.

"With these few observations, I might make a personal request to the hon. the Minister just to do what he could in these directions to help both the landlord and the tenant without in any way throwing the interest of either to the winds. I have got full confidence in him and I request him to devote a little more attention to these matters in which case I am sure he will be able to do real good to the public."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"Sir, my first duty is to thank my friends Mr. Ramachandra Rao and Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar for their reasonable attitude, and the only attitude that can possibly be taken in a matter like this, that we must expand agricultural education and research work, and that, if possible, more money should be put into them. As regards their criticisms, Sir, I am indebted to them and if my interference in any way can lead to greater production either in the work of these experts or in that of the college staff, certainly I may assure my friends I shall not be wanting.

24th March 1922]

[Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu]

"Well, Sir, we are told that I stopped speaking about the Entomologist on the last occasion when I spoke so much about the Mycologist. It was not because, Sir, I had not a good account to give of this expert officer, but because you put limitations on our time and in fact we had only one half day for the seven Members of Government and I had to adjust myself to that time. As it was, if I am not mistaken, I had to speak for more than an hour on that occasion, and to take more time would have been most unreasonable and perhaps would have been an annoyance to the Members of Government, not to speak of the inconvenience I would have been causing to my hon. Colleagues. I can only say this at this stage that I have got with me—not here, but in my house—a report of the Entomologist showing all the work he has done during the period he has been there. I shall be very happy to place it in the hands of my hon. Friend and he will see from it that really good work is being done. It may be, Sir, that much attention has not been devoted to batel leaf, but the reason, I believe, is this.

11-30 a.m. "Experts in the beginning at least look to the more important crops such as paddy and cotton. My hon. Friend himself has referred to the research work, the study of bacilli, their life history, their course of development and so forth that severally form the work of our Entomologist and the pamphlet that I was speaking of will give my friend an idea as to what has been done in that direction. My hon. friend also wanted, Sir, that I should give another instance of the line in which the Entomologist has been working. I may mention the paddy crop. There is in the Kistna district a station in which the worms that dangerously affect the paddy crop were being examined and I may inform my hon. Friend that certain good results have been obtained. As regards doing work more than talking, I am afraid the experts don't talk much. They sit in their rooms, Sir, poring over and through that long tube which they call a microscope, they try to make little things look big, things which do not appear to the common eye. Such people do very little talking. I can very well understand that immediate results of a far reaching kind cannot be expected in so short a time. I have often submitted to the House that the success of a scientist has to be built upon a series of failures. Let us not grudge a few failures in the case of these scientists. Quite recently I received a book which I have not brought with me now. It dealt with the chemical industries of Germany. There is one sentence in that book the gist of which is this: for every 100 scientists that were employed on research work 99 were failures and one a success. But if it was possible to estimate in money the value of the work turned out by this one chemist it was more than that of all the other 99 put together. One such single research in the case of paddy will be enough for us. I am not referring to the single seed planting or seed rate. But by cross-breeding they have been able to evolve a strain which has produced 16 per cent more than what is ordinarily got from the ordinary strains. The father seed when planted in the best soil and under the best circumstances was able to produce, let us say, hundred measures. Then this new seed from that seed prepared anew by cross-breeding produced 16 per cent more or 116 measures. I suppose it is called Coimbatore No. 24 and there is a persistent demand for it. So far as the sugarcane expert is concerned he is taken over by the Government of India because the Government of India have been paying the whole cost. He has not been taken away from our control and the

[Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu] [24th March 1922]

Director of Agriculture has full control over him and he works under this Government. I may also bring to the notice of this House that sugarcane is not so widely planted in this province as it is in Northern India and that is the reason why he had to be taken away from us. In fact, the Government of India have been paying for him from the beginning. It is but right that for account purposes the cost of his department should be put under the Government of India. I have very little more to say except that I shall be very glad certainly to avail myself of any advice from my hon. Friend Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar and if there is anything that I can do, it only requires a word from the hon. Member. I am going to Coimbatore, the place where he lives, and both of us can visit the college and see for ourselves if anything further than what is being done can be done."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" I should like to make one or two remarks in connexion with this Research Institute. One point which was very much discussed was whether agricultural research should be kept separate from agricultural education. I trust that the time will come when this idea that agricultural research should be divorced from agricultural education will be given up. It had been pointed out to us by more than one student in the United Kingdom that opportunities for agricultural research in this country are not made available to them, that experts for research work are entirely recruited from the United Kingdom with the result that those who wish to pursue agricultural research have to go abroad. It is for these reasons that many of our students, attracted by the opportunities of getting into the Imperial Agricultural Service, are now in the British Universities in large numbers. I met them almost in every University and the universal complaint was this: that agricultural education in this country has suffered considerably by keeping the research portion of it entirely closed to agricultural students. The idea of the Royal Commission on the Public Services was that the Agricultural Research Institute at Pusa should be expanded and combined with the Agricultural Colleges and that the whole basis of agricultural education should be expanded and amplified in such a way as to combine research with instruction. This essential idea has been kept in abeyance all these years and I trust, Sir, that the hon. the Minister would tackle this problem immediately and see what can be done to remedy this obvious defect in our present system. Of course I do not wish to refer to a statement made that the conditions of agricultural instruction in the United Kingdom are not at all suited to this country. It is a much wider question than can be discussed under this motion. But if agricultural research is to make any advance in this country I have no doubt whatever in my mind that it should be so extended and combined that the majority of students pursuing agricultural instruction should have opportunities of developing as experts in all the various branches of agricultural knowledge. That I submit is the chief point for consideration. With reference to the budget that has been already discussed I trust that before this item comes up next year this question will have received attention."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I want to say a few words. I need hardly express my thanks to the hon. the Minister. But I wish to say one thing. He need not wait till he goes to Coimbatore and takes me to the college."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—" We will both see in April next."

24th March 1922]

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ What I say is this. There is in the office of the Director of Agriculture the whole correspondence dealing with the question I have referred to. One particular agency says that it falls under the range of the other agency and the other agency says that it is the duty of the first agency. In the meantime the worms go on increasing as they always do. This is prevalent both in the case of the sugarcane and the betel vine. I request him not to spend even one more day but at once to issue orders to the Director of Agriculture, whose subordinates are fighting among themselves as to which man should do a particular work, to see that the disease is at least reduced. I know about the statistics that will be furnished by the Entomologist about the whole number of worms analysed, the number of worms dissected and all this and all that. All that I say is that so far as the treatment of the disease is concerned, nothing practical has been done. Instructions should be issued not to find out the life history of the worms but to find out the life history of the disease, the means to eradicate it or at least to reduce the effects of the disease. These are the points so far as the betel vines are concerned. There is already considerable correspondence about it and I request the hon. the Minister to issue instructions to the Director to see that something is done. As for the sugar expert I know he is being paid by the Imperial Government. My fear is that he may be suddenly transferred to Pusa. We must have some one under the control and under the pay of this Government so that his attention and his responsibility may be confined to this Presidency. These are the points which the hon. the Minister may take into consideration and I think I am obliged to him for the kind way in which he has taken my suggestions. I will not call them advice. It only remains for him to put them into action.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 591.

The following motion was not made :—

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—

591. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 32,000 for travelling allowance by Rs. 3,200.*

Motion 592.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I beg to make the following motion :—

592. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,26,333 for research institute by Rs. 20,000.*

“ Sir, in making this motion for reduction I have to make one or two observations. Last year one of the hon. Members of this House in winding up his remarks on the Agricultural department spoke as follows; ‘ I am not at all satisfied with the Agricultural department which has not been able to do any good to the ryot population either in the way of improving manure or raising new crops or in the matter of economic growth of crops which are absolutely necessary in the interests of the cultivator.’ Needless to say, Sir, these remarks have peculiar significance when it is remembered that they were made by no less a member than the present colleague of the hon. the Minister for Development. I refer to the hon. Mr. Patro. I am quite prepared to agree that for really good work we may need people of a higher calibre than those who are now employed in the work and that such people

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

[24th March 1922]

need larger pay than what each of them is receiving now. Even if it is so I would rather wish that we pay far more and get a little good than employ any number of officers on really high pay though not so high as the first-class man may demand and yet derive no benefit worth mentioning. Turning to the staff I find that there is a tendency to hastily conclude that good work is done simply because the pay of particular people has been increased. That cannot be so. For example in the research institute department we had formerly one agricultural chemist and one assistant agricultural chemist. Now the budget provides for three assistant agriculturists. Further all these are gazetted officers. I think really for the sort of work that is done by these people we may have only one gazetted assistant and not three as provided for in the budget. The work of analysis now has become a kind of routine work. It is but reasonable therefore to expect that this work can be carried on by subordinate officers under the supervision of the expert, viz., the agricultural chemist and his gazetted assistant. Take again the case of the agricultural botanist. So far, all his attention seems to have been confined to the southern districts of the Presidency. The area under paddy cultivation is no doubt large there. But in the northern districts, Kistna, Gōdāvari and Ganjam also, there is a good deal of land under paddy cultivation. Is it not time that the expert who has been so long remaining in the south should turn his attention to the northern districts and see what he can do there?

11-45 a.m. "The third appointment, I wish to refer to is that of the bacteriologist, who at present is Mr. Norris."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"Mrs. Norris."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Her husband also is a bacteriologist."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"He is not now in our province."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Has that appointment been abolished then? From the civil list I find that both the names of these people are borne on the list. I thought the whole thing appeared to be rather anomalous. The place of a married woman is, I think, more in her house than in her husband's office. Are they to work in the same place and go on leave simultaneously? There are so many questions connected with this which I thought I would raise here and get an answer from the hon. the Minister."

"As regards the Entomologist, I have also some complaint to make. My districts also are periodically affected by these pests. Recently we had a pest called 'Aggipurugu'. I believe the Collector brought it to the notice of the authorities and so far, I think, nothing has been done to investigate and find out how this pest can be rooted out."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"Sir, so far as the increase in the staff is concerned, it necessarily follows because more experts are being appointed. My hon. Friend next referred to the question of sending this paddy expert from the south to the north. In the south it will be remembered that only some experiments on rotation and manures were carried on. Yet the question of strain still remains and that will be attended to in the new farm that will be started. At the same time I may bring to the notice of my hon. Friend that the question of sending him and getting more work of this kind done in the Northern Circars is just now engaging the

24th March 1922] [Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu.]

attention of the Government and I hope I shall be able to satisfy my hon. Friend soon."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—" May I know, Sir, where the hon. the Minister is going to have an agricultural school or farm? "

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—" The agricultural school will be in Anakapalle or Samalkot so far as the Northern Circars are concerned.

" As regards the appointment of Mr. Norris and Mrs Norris, my hon. Friend made some observations which I don't think I can leave unchallenged. We were told that the place of a wife is in the house and not in the office or in the laboratory. That is no doubt our conception in this country; but in civilized countries, if a lady thinks that she can serve humanity and the world much better in the laboratory than in the home, she is generally allowed to carry out her wish. As regards the inconvenience to the department when they go on leave, I may tell my hon. Friend that before her appointment, we made it a condition precedent that the leave or transfer of one should not in any way interfere with the presence of the other at his or her post. As for separation it is their concern and not ours and they have agreed to remain separate when one goes on leave or is transferred. I may tell the House, however, that both Mr. Norris and Mrs. Norris have been found to be devoted to their work and have been doing excellent work and Government have absolutely no reason to complain of their being together in the same place.

" The last point raised by my friend was about the ' Aggipurugu '. Government have received no information about this matter and probably if my friend had only written to me, I would have been able to do something. But I have just received a note saying that Mr. Sampson, the Director of Agriculture, who had information of this has promised to depute an officer to investigate it. I shall look into it and if an officer has not already been sent, I will see that one is sent immediately."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I think the disease has now disappeared. I do not know what the officer to be deputed now is going to do hereafter. I am sure the Collector of the district made a report on this question and I do not know what arrangements exist in the department for such information to reach the hon. the Minister in time. Another question which has not been answered is that in the place of so many gazetted officers, some non-gazetted officers may be appointed. For example, I referred to the appointment of the Entomologist. I am sure that till recently there was only one gazetted officer; but now I think there are two of them. This makes a great difference. The non-gazetted officers will be paid far less than the gazetted officers, i.e., Rs. 250—750 a month. Similarly in the case of assistant directors, I suggested, that there might be one gazetted officer to hold that office and that the others need not be gazetted officers. I say that without reducing the number it is possible to save money. May I request the hon the Minister for Development to give his consideration to this aspect of the matter also? "

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—" All that I can say is that these assistants are persons who will be in direct and close touch with the senior officers and in these days when we are fighting for the appointment of more Indian officers in the Indian Agricultural service,

[Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu] [24th March 1922]

unless these assistants are prepared for places in the Indian Agricultural service, unless they are directly trained and unless they are men of a certain calibre and receive that kind of training which is essential for their being appointed to that service, we shall be losing the opportunity of training them properly. Subject to this, I shall be glad to consider the question raised by my hon. Friend."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 593.

The following motion was not made :—

Mr. R. T. KESAVALU PILLAI :—

593. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,26,533 for research institute by Rs. 1,00,000.*

Motion 594.

Mr. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI :—" Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

594. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 33,141 for assistant directors of agriculture by Rs. 16,576.*

" Sir, in making this motion, it is my intention to draw the attention of the hon. the Minister that for the better working of this department, it is much better that they enter into the confidence of the people and for this it is necessary that there should be an advisory board in each centre and the directors are asked to take their advice. This country being an agricultural country, it is necessary that the advice of these people who are trained in agriculture is taken. They will give better advice and with their co-operation this department can work much better. I may also bring this fact to the notice of the hon. the Minister, that the United Provinces Government have recently come out very boldly with a policy to reorganize the agricultural department."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—" Sir, so far as the assistant directors are concerned, they work in co-operation with the deputy directors. It has been my impression, Sir, that these officers are in close touch with the agriculturists of the country. In fact, their work consists in that. My friend says that the question of agricultural boards may be considered. As it is, we have got an agricultural standing committee advising me. But since it seems to be the desire of my hon. Friend that there should be some sort of organization in the districts, I shall be glad to consider any suggestions that may be made in that direction and if my hon. Friend will be good enough to give me an idea of what sort of boards he wants, I will certainly consider the point."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 595 to 600.

The following motions were not made :—

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—

595. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 75,000 for travelling allowance by Rs. 7,500.*

24th March 1922]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—

596. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,42,300 for deputy and assistant directors of agriculture by Rs. 100.*

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—

597. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,67,000 for improvement of cotton cultivation by Rs. 17,000.*

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—

598. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 62,200 for Agricultural engineering by Rs. 3,000.*

Mr. M. C. RAJA :—

599. *To omit allotment of Rs. 30,500 for eradication of the palmyra disease.*

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—

600. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,28,421 for agriculture by Rs. 25,000.*

Motion 601.

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—“ Sir, I move :—

601. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,28,421 for agriculture by Rs. 25,000.*

“ I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. the Minister, in moving this motion, one or two facts connected with the agricultural well-being of the ryots. The first relates to chemical manures. The hon. the Minister is aware that there has been considerable trouble in the deltaic districts in regard to what is known as ‘*patimannu*.’ I think it is not necessary to dilate at length on this matter. Hon. Members coming from the Kistna and the neighbouring districts are aware that the village site has been dug up and pits are made to be filled up by the department of Public Health. These pits have been dug up for taking away what is known as ‘*patimannu*,’ containing some phosphates for manuring fields. This source of supply has been exhausted and the department some years ago made experiments and they closed their experiments on the ground that their chemical manures could be replaced by something which could be obtained from Messrs. Parry & Co. I do not know if it is a wise policy. It means this : that persons have to go all the way to Ranipet to get this stuff from Messrs. Parry & Co. It has been pointed out in more than one agricultural conference during the last 6 or 7 years that the railway freight rates on agricultural manures should be reduced and that was the opinion of very responsible agricultural officers and notwithstanding many representations on this subject, I am very sorry that nothing has yet been done in this direction of cheapening agricultural manures for the agriculturists.

“ Now the only proper thing to be done is to undertake the manufacture of manure somewhere in one of the districts on the east coast and to establish another factory somewhere in the southern districts with the necessary apparatus for the manufacture of chemical manures on a large scale. I think this is the only solution of the problem.

12 noon.

[Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao Pantulu] [24th March 1922]

“Such a problem has not yet been tackled. I suggest that no time should be lost by the Government in establishing a factory for the manufacture of chemical manure on the east coast on a scale which will pay the agriculturists to take it and to apply it to their lands. We should do something more than refer these people to Messrs. Parry & Co.

“Another question in connexion with manures is that of fish-guano which was in use until quite recently, but for some unaccountable reason the supply has not been equal to the demand. I also learnt recently that the manufacture of manure out of fish-guano has been completely stopped. I do not wish to make any definite assertion as to this fact. But whatever it is, if it has to come to the east coast, it has to be brought all the way from Calicut and the trainage may cost more than the value of the manure itself. Therefore this question of manufacture of chemical manure to take the place of ‘*patimannu*’ which is supposed to contain ‘*phosphorus*’ and which is now exhausted is one of supreme importance. So far as I know, nothing satisfactory has been attempted. I know some experiments were made in ‘*patimannu*’ some years ago and they were quickly abandoned without any satisfactory results. That is the first question I should like to place for the consideration of the hon. the Minister for Development.

“The second question relates to the question of demonstration. In his opening remarks on the budget the hon. the Minister for Development stated that scientific experiments will be made in agriculture by the Government. He also stated that a horse can be taken to a pond but it cannot be made to drink water. I am afraid that is not the correct attitude to take in the matter.”

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—“It was not the attitude of the Government. I only stated it in reply to an interruption by some hon. Member.”

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—“Sir, I have a distinct recollection of three things, that a horse was referred to, and also a pond and the horse being taken to water. It may be that I am wrong in my inferences. But these three observations are quite clear in my mind and they came from the hon. the Minister and not from anybody else. But however I do not wish to pursue the matter any further. We know our agricultural population is very ignorant and the only thing that appeals to them is ocular demonstration. A large sum of money is being spent in other countries in this direction. Whatever may be the state of education in those countries, the person who corresponds to the ryot here is as conservative towards the results of scientific agriculture as he is here and all those prejudices are broken down only by ocular demonstration, by lectures and so on. That is of the utmost importance for the promotion of the knowledge which many of our scientists in agriculture are now making available to the ryot. Therefore I suggest that there should be expansion of the activities of the Agricultural department in the matter of demonstration. All that I know is that there are at present a small number of agricultural inspectors who tour round the districts. They are not enough and I am not sure that they are doing useful work in this direction. What is necessary is that consistently with our present finance, the whole thing should be carried out in a manner in which the ryot can digest easily. It is true that leaflets are printed, but I do not know how many are read by the ryot. It is

24th March 1922] [Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao Pantulu]

entirely a question of demonstration. My hon. Friend wishes us to understand that the ryots are really benefited by the various experiments which are being conducted by our agricultural experts. I believe they do not follow the real method of making them agreeable to the ryot and I trust that something will be done to make these experiments also advantageous to the people. Of course it is true that deputy directors go about in the districts but I do not know whether they are perfectly in touch with the agricultural population. No doubt they are required under the rules to be in camp for a certain number of days in every month.

"Therefore I want that these two questions of supreme importance to the ryots, should be tackled properly, one relating to the question of agricultural manures, and the other relating to the consumption of the knowledge made available by these experts and unless proper steps are taken in these two directions, I am afraid the general impression in the country namely that the Agricultural department is of no good to the people will gain ground."

Mr. A. T. MUTTUKUMARASWAMI CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, agriculture is the chief occupation of the bulk of the people in this presidency. We endeavour much to see that the lands yield greater produce. Any attempt proposed to be made by the Government for improvement in the method of cultivation, dissemination of the knowledge of the use of better implements, the storage of manure, the use of leaf manure, the extensive use of single seed planting, which was estimated to effect a saving of nearly a crore of rupees to the ryots in this presidency in the purchase of seed grains—all such attempts made by the Government should be supported by the Council. We are the ryots ourselves and we are the elected representatives of the ryots who form the bulk of the electorate. There is no use attempting to reduce the grant required by the Government under the head 'Agriculture.' If there is any misapplication of the grant, certainly any hon. Member of the Council has his own remedy against any such extravagant or useless expenditure incurred against the policy enunciated by the Council and the Government. With these few remarks, I strongly oppose the motion."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU:—"Sir, no other subject is better connected with the well-being of the rural population than agriculture and any amount of money which this Government proposes to spend on agriculture will be quite welcome to the members of this Council. But we shall have to see what the arrangements are that the Government have made for the dissemination of the knowledge among the rural population. As far as we can judge from the budget, my impression is that no forward step is taken in the matter of propaganda work. Most of the propaganda work is expected to be carried on by the lower subordinates and the figure of lower subordinates employed stands the same as last year. Of course there is some variation in the number of upper subordinates employed. Last year it was 67 and this year it is 87. I believe that upper subordinates are not intended for propaganda work. Most of the work is being done by the lower subordinates and their number is very small. Very soon the Government must evolve a system whereby all the recent achievements of the department could be brought to the notice of the rural population. We have got agricultural farms with some staff at the rate of one for each district or one for two districts. In the past much has

[Mr. C. V. S. Narasimha Raju] [24th March 1922]

been done in the matter of expanding the number of agricultural farms, but whenever we visit a farm or have a conversation with the deputy director of agriculture, the general complaint is that he has not got sufficient number of hands to send round to the villages for propaganda work. All the money that is now spent and all the results now produced by the department must be carried out fully for the improvement of the knowledge of the ryot. We cannot afford to wait any longer, for every day we lose is a great loss to the country. I hope the hon. the Minister will see his way to increase the number of propagandists. I know this question is intimately connected with the question of the number of hands available and also with the question of recruitment to the agricultural college. The number of lower subordinates manufactured year after year is very limited : it ranges from 20 to 40. That is a very small number taking into consideration the vast area we have to deal with. This I believe necessitates the establishment of another agricultural school to prepare lower subordinates to undertake propaganda work."

MR. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDAR :—" Sir, no department of Government requires greater retrenchment or is more capable of admitting greater retrenchment than the department of Agriculture and I believe there is no department which has got such *immense potentialities* for the good of the country and the ryot, but I confidently assert that no department is so singularly barren of useful results to the tax-payer and the ryot as this. No department spells so much extravagance and waste as the department of Agriculture. I will take the Agricultural College first. The College of Agriculture has cost the Government, heaven knows how many lakhs, ever since it was determined to establish it at Coimbatore with the magnificent structures and quarters for officers and staff. Still in the year 1921 after so much expenditure and with the institution so fully manned with experts, we have the melancholy fact, that for the certificate course, 39 were offered admission but only 26 joined and it is admitted that the course has lost much of its popularity. For the diploma course 28 were offered and 18 actually joined and it was found necessary to grant stipends to all students and even then it is found difficult to induce students from the educated classes to take to an agricultural course. The original object of the college, namely to induce the sons of the ryot to have practical lessons in agriculture have failed in spite of the lapse of years. The whole scheme of the Agricultural College appears to be really in the nature of an experiment still."

"The Saidapet farm and the college were abandoned though after expenditure of vast sums of money and the location at Coimbatore was decided upon and huge sums have been spent and the college side of the institute is confessed to be still not a success. The mere fact that lakhs and lakhs have been spent and are being spent does not go to show that we have emerged beyond the stage of experiment. It is so judging from this fact, that an agricultural school was opened at Anakapalle and after three years of personal attention on the part of the deputy director, the school was closed as not being able to attract any of the ryot and the labouring classes and not serving any useful purpose and the same fate may overtake the college at Coimbatore. The gradual and growing unpopularity of the courses may lead to the closing of the college or removal elsewhere as was done from Saidapet to Coimbatore. Why so many lakhs should have been spent in grand architectural buildings and residential quarters in such a state of affairs and to serve what purpose it is impossible to divine."

24th March 1922] [Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Goundar]

"The very magnificence of the buildings, the well-laid out plots, the grand residences and the army of servants and peons serve to over-awe the ryot and bewilder his wits. So that the class of people for whose benefit such institutions should exist derive not the least benefit. With all this what do you think the department has done last year. Plans and estimates for buildings on a vast scale have been prepared for opening a new school at Taliparamba. Furthermore ten new appointments in the Indian Agricultural service, chemists, economic botanists, agrostologists, bacteriologists and what not, were sanctioned and most of the places filled up and six gazetted assistants to the 'ologists' above mentioned were created and the post of an assistant director was created to assist the over-worked professor of agriculture who had to teach a smaller number of students. A more heartless and sinful waste of money, it is impossible to imagine and this is the first fruit of the new transferred subject of Development.

"What have the experts newly created done or have been doing?

"*Chemistry*.—It appears that owing to lack of gas, not much work could be done; but certain soils were analyzed and some report is being written by the acting chemist.

"The Economist Botanist for cotton came, and after some time, his official designation was decided to be 'cotton specialist.' Of 12-15 p.m. course there was no special work waiting for the expert, and so stationed at Coimbatore with inadequate temporary laboratory accommodation, he took charge of the Anamalai-Cambodia station. He is busy improving Cambodia cotton and a lengthy paragraph in the report of the Director of Agriculture is devoted to showing what the expert is discovering with regard to Cambodia cotton. There is one very useful fact he has discovered, namely, the single plant selections of cotton which had been produced during the last two years under the superintendence of Mr. H. C. Sampson were not single selections, but mixtures of the produce of two or more plants. Not only has this been discovered, but this mistake has been traced to the carelessness of the assistant farm-manager. We do not know what other work will be found for the cotton specialist. Apparently at present the circumstances are not favourable to his work and the expert is waiting for work to be given to him. The other experts and the gazetted assistants are examining strains of paddy, grass and pests. Some research work seems to have been done for the benefit of certain planters.

"Some more experts who are to be recruited from England are expected to arrive as soon as buildings and quarters at a cost of 5 lakhs are completed. It does not appear that any urgent work is waiting for them. The foundations of the buildings have been finished, but I pray that either the building work may be stopped or, if that is impossible, that simpler and cheaper designs may be adopted. It is heart-rending to contemplate that while colleges in medicine, engineering, forest and even in arts have been supplying men who are doctors, engineers and those otherwise useful to the State or employees in public and private services, not one man that has come out of the Agricultural College has been found or heard to be useful for the advancement of agriculture.

"There was also, during the year, a reorganization of the agricultural engineering section and it seems that the Agricultural Engineer could not do much work owing to want of an office and workshop, and for the latter,

[Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Goundar] [24th March 1922]

plans are in preparation. A better illustration of the policy of drift of the Government, firstly to create a highly-paid officer and then to find work for him, it is difficult to find. The Agricultural Engineering Department, if properly equipped and managed with a workshop with all modern appliances, will be of some use to the ryots, but all the money goes to pay the experts and gazetted officers, and no money is left for equipping a workshop, although the improvement of this section was said to be necessary in several reports of past years.

"The old ruinous policy must be scrapped and there must be a change of heart and change of policy in this all-important Department of Agriculture. Money can well be spent to the lasting benefit of the ryot and tax-payer, the backbone of our agricultural country, if the right methods are adopted and the department is more manned than at present by persons who know agricultural conditions peculiar to this land and have intimate knowledge of the difficulties of the ryot.

"It is not my object to deprecate the value of scientific research and discovery or speak disparagingly of the work—the important work of specialists and experts. Scientific work and discovery may bring lasting boons. But my point is that it is possible to waste money on expert knowledge or research work more lavishly than absolutely necessary and all that money can be spent in solid, constructive and instructive work which will reach the ryot immediately."

(Here the bell was sounded and the speaker resumed his seat.)

Mr. V. P. PAKKIRISWAMI PILLAI :—"Sir, eighty-five per cent of the population of the country is said to be agriculturists. Many of my hon. Friends here complained that too much money has been spent in this department. The work done by this department is of immense benefit to the agriculturists. No other department has such immense potentialities for doing good to the country as this department. So instead of asking the money to be cut down, we must be prepared to vote more than what we are giving now.

"Of course, at the commencement it may be costly, but in the long run, we shall reap the benefits. We have not given them sufficient time to develop their projects. Besides, the experts we are getting from foreign countries have got to learn the climate of our country, the nature of the soil and other cognate things, and to find out in what way all these pests could be removed. All these things must necessarily take time. So, instead of asking the money to be cut down I do think that we must give more money. Whatever is done now is not properly developed so that people may be benefited by it. The number of inspectors must be increased enormously, and demonstration work must be carried on on a larger scale. These experts may then be able to succeed in their experiments and justify their appointment to the Government. But it is the people that ought to be convinced of it, so that for this purpose in every taluk at least, a demonstration farm should be opened. Otherwise the work of these experts will be thrown away. With these observations, I beg to oppose the reduction."

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAIYAR :—"Sir, the hon. the Mover emphasized the importance of chemical manuring. I think that before we introduce the chemical manuring, we must have a knowledge of the bio-chemistry of the

24th March 1922] [Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udaiyar]

soil, what chemical manures should be made use of, in what proportion these manures should be employed. All these questions presuppose a fair knowledge of the soil in the different parts of the province, a comprehensive scheme of soil-analysis, both mechanical and scientific, of the quantity of potash or other minerals and the nature and quantity of organisms present in the soil. In respect of popularising these manures I think it would be more advantageous to the agriculturist to be told how he may derive very great benefit from the proper use of the farm yard manure and also how it will do him immense good to raise a crop of leguminous plants. For agricultural experts themselves are doubtful of the results obtained by an indiscriminate use of costly fertilizers or chemical manures. There are many agricultural operations which are mechanically gone through by the agriculturist. He has perhaps an empirical knowledge of all these things; and the researches made by specialists have proved that all these empirical methods are certainly very good and very useful. (Hear, hear.) A rational application of these methods with such improvements as admit of being introduced at very little cost will be productive of greater good than the extensive use of costly fertilizers.

“ Secondly, some remarks have been made with regard to the work of the specialists. I think, Sir, I am in duty bound to bear testimony to the very good work done by the specialists, especially in the Tinnevely district. I speak of the Tinnevely district because my experience does not extend to other districts. My hon. Friend Mr. Somasundaram Pillai is not here. The other hon. Friend Mr. Shanmukham Pillai will surely bear me out when I say that the cotton crop in the Tinnevely district has been free from certain pests which had been attacking the crop in the past and making the cotton grown there very inferior in quality. Owing to the work of these specialists, we find a better cotton crop, and this crop contributes very much to the prosperity of the people of the Tinnevely district.

“ The third point, Sir, is that a great deal more has to be done by these specialists. There is therefore no lack of work for them. We do not know for certain what are the precise functions of the different organisms on the soil which are responsible for liberating ammonia and certain acids. What those organisms are and what are their respective functions, how they can be brought in to the soil in such numbers as are necessary for conferring fertility on the soil, all these are questions that must be studied scientifically before they could become matter for demonstration. As regards the last point, that is, demonstration work, I feel that it is not necessary for a special staff of officers to be appointed for this purpose. The present staff can cope with this work. There are, besides, a number of pamphlets issued by the Publicity Bureau and the Agricultural Department, and many more such pamphlets might be issued. And popularising these pamphlets, having by turns a great exhibition in the different districts, which will attract all ryots, especially the wealthy landlords, would go a great way towards educating the people in all those very indispensable and necessary things, which ought to be known to every ryot and a knowledge of which, I believe, will surely contribute to the agricultural prosperity of this province. Therefore, very far from thinking that the Agricultural Department, as it is now run, is a burden on the tax-payer, I think that the benefits which the department has already conferred upon the ryots of certain districts will be extended, day by day, enriching this province. Considering the other and more important

[Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udaiyar]

[24th March 1922]

branch of the work of the department, the many agricultural pests that have been successfully eradicated and will continue to be eradicated if specialists like Mr. Barber and others go on with their researches and the experiments to have a better crop of sugarcane and to find certain remedies for certain insects that affect not only sugarcane but other crops as well, considering all this, I believe it is possible for us to say confidently that this department is doing good work."

MR. O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR :—" I have listened to the speeches of the hon. the Mover and Mr. Vellingiri Goundar. Whatever excuse there may be on the part of the mover for not quite appreciating the work that has been done in Coimbatore, I find there is none for my friend Mr. Vellingiri Goundar. Probably he is illustrating the truth contained in that well-known statement 'nearer the Church farther away from God' For he happens to be at Coimbatore, and day in and day out he probably sees the palatial building of the Agricultural College and therefore he seems to think that it is not doing good work. Sir, I have a different tale to tell about it. I happened to go there only about six weeks ago on a professional business and took advantage of that occasion of going around the whole College through the courtesy of various professors there, European and Indian. There I saw what was being done, and I was particularly struck by the series of experiments which have been carried on and which have resulted in successfully spraying sulphate of copper by mechanical appliances. All kinds of useful researches are made there. Thus, they were able to put a stop to the pests that attack sugarcane, cotton and maize crops and grapes. That discovery is the result of a long series of experiments, and therefore you cannot judge of the work done by the department only by the number of men turned out, but it must be judged by the quantity of useful work done there."

MR. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDAR :—" I am not much concerned with the work of the department. I have only given the general policy. I did not touch upon the work of the department which my hon. Friend Mr. Tanikachala Chettiyar is referring to."

MR. O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR :—" If I have any complaints against the Minister it is rather that he has not fought sufficiently
12-30 p.m. with the hon. the Finance Member for giving him the proper amount of funds. I find in the budget estimate of 1921-22 the total including votable and non-votable items to be 18½ lakhs of rupees. This time it is only 16½ lakhs. I suppose it is to be accounted for by the fact that owing to the financial stringency, the pruning knife that has been applied all round has also been applied to the Agricultural Department with the result that the provision under this head has been reduced, and instead of deprecating the fact that money is being spent, we are to fight for more money being placed at the disposal of the Minister, so that he may be enabled to carry on the useful work which is being done by this department on a larger scale."

RAI BAHADUR T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" I have tabled the next motion but I would prefer to speak on this motion as I do not intend to embarrass the hon. the Minister in his attempt to develop the agricultural progress of this country. It is not my object to say that the amount spent is not properly spent. That is not my point. We do require experts and we do

24th March 1922]

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

require researches which are of immense use to the rural population. It is well known that the masses consist mostly of agriculturists. It is also equally well known that their methods of agriculture are almost primitive. Consequently there is a necessity for engaging experts and more experts too, if possible, for finding the means to improve the agriculture of the country. My complaint is that the masses have not yet been benefited by the researches that have been made by these experts. They are very simple people; they are ignorant people; and they cannot be expected to understand the technicalities of these things. What I would urge is that these things should be made so simple and so easy, both by ordinary, simple language and by demonstrations in every district and in every taluk, so that the people may have the fullest benefit of the researches that have been made by the Department of Agriculture. It is no use to discover improved methods and to lock them up in one's heart or in one's bureau. The great use consists in disseminating that knowledge so that it may reach the masses and they may appreciate and follow it up in their methods of agriculture. That is the thing that is essential, and my complaint is that you can rather forego some of the extravagant expenditure that has been allotted in the way of contingencies and other things and utilize that amount for the propagation of the benefits that have been discovered by these experts to the advantage of the masses. That is my point. Therefore, Sir, I submit that that is the point which the hon. the Minister will be pleased to bear in mind. In fact, in my district, people know very little of what is being done in the Agricultural College of Coimbatore or elsewhere. They are in the very same state as they were 25 years ago, and will the hon. the Minister be pleased to send some experts there to propagate their knowledge among the people of my district so that they may also be benefited by such knowledge? Can he not start a farm there under the guidance of one or two experts and demonstrate according to the nature of the soil and the nature of the manure available there? Can he not demonstrate the benefits that have been discovered by these experts? At present, sufficient provision has not been made for achieving such purposes. That is my point. Therefore, I say, both in the matter of seeds, and in the matter of the proper kinds of manure that should be applied to the soil, the method of ploughing the soil and cultivating it at proper seasons—all these things, I think, an expert will be able to do by demonstration in the locality.

“I say, Sir, that the masses are not so stupid as not to understand the benefits if they are demonstrated to them. If the masses do not understand them, it is because they do not know or because what is being done does not really benefit them. Therefore, I submit, the whole attention of the department must be directed to the propagation of the knowledge to the masses. That is why I have tabled another motion, but I prefer to speak on the general motion because the real complaint is that sufficient attention is not being given to the propagation of this knowledge to the masses.”

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“I had no intention of saying anything on this motion but I am afraid that after hearing the speech of my friend Mr. Tanikachalla Chettiyar—I find myself compelled to make some remarks—I cannot but compare him to one of those holiday tourists who come and stay either in Government House or some hotel and go away after a few days and say that they have knowledge of everything in India,

[Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar] [24th March 1922]

and that nobody except themselves, whether Indian or European, knows so much as themselves. I was surprised to hear from him that he had a full knowledge of everything that is going on in this Agricultural College after a few hours' visit to that college which he was able to spare during his short trip to Coimbatore on professional engagement. He went on to criticise and misinterpret the words of my hon. friend, Mr. Vellingiri Goundar, who only said that a good deal of money that is spent was being wasted.

"No one in this House or anywhere else says anything about the large sums of money that are reasonably spent by this department. We, on the other hand, are for spending more money in this department reasonably, but we emphatically say that some money is also wasted now. So that, the hon. the Minister will do well to see that money is not wasted, and that the allotments made are spent for useful purposes. Mr. Vellingiri Goundar never said that there is absolutely no use of this college. His point, and my point also, was that the ryot population does not get any benefit that may be compatible with the large sums of money that are spent upon this department. He said that the college was primarily intended for the sons of the soil and for the actually tilling ryots. But now if at all it benefits anybody it benefits only the non-cultivating ryot. The actually tilling ryot does not find this college of any use to him. Unless a man is prepared to take up Government employment or employment under a zamindar having a big estate, the education imparted in this college is found to be practically of no use to him as an actual tiller. By this I do not mean to say that education in this college is of no use at all.

"Mr. Tanikachala Chettiya was correct in speaking highly about the spraying machine. I have found this machine to be useful, and I have got one myself. I am making use of this in my compound where there are a lot of flower plants, fruit trees, grape vines, etc. Therefore when I was saying something about the wasting of money by this department I do admit also that the department has done some good. The Mycologist has been doing very good work. It has considerably benefited fruit trees, flower plants, etc., and the grapes which are grown in several districts, but which are not to be found much in Coimbatore. With all this we do think that much more good can be done if only this money is better utilized. Mr. Vellingiri Goundar is one of the richest ryots who actually cultivate the land, and what is more, I believe, he is also one of the non-official visitors to this Agricultural College, and, if anybody's opinion is weighty at all in this matter, it is his. Mr. Vellingiri Goundar has visited the college several times, and he and myself had occasion to go to the college together once, and I can say that it is not want of appreciation as the last speaker was induced to remark but it is a desire to see something more useful done by this college that Mr. Vellingiri Goundar was speaking on this motion, and were it not for the fact that his time was up he would have proved it. Our object was not to curtail the allotment. We want more money to be allotted, but we still maintain that much money is wasted by this department, which can be utilized in better ways such as giving to the actual farmer information about scientific researches, etc. In this way we think something more useful could be done not necessarily useful to us educated people alone, but to the tillers of the soil also.

24th March 1922] [Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar]

"In this connexion I may say that I have purchased a monsoon plough and given it to the tenant. This plough remains as new now as it was at the time I purchased it. It is not capable of being pulled by ordinary bulls. So, what I say is, much of the improvements effected by the department is not capable of being used by the ordinary tiller. Lastly, I think that the Agricultural College will justify the money spent upon it only if it is able to give to the tiller its experience and knowledge whereby he may work with a little less expense and with a little less difficulty."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"Mr. President, my first duty is to thank my friend Mr. Narasimhachari for the attitude he has taken in this matter. While he criticised the work of the experts he very generously stated that we require more research officers and more experts if possible. He more than once kindly acknowledged the services rendered by the department and by the experts. It is perhaps not surprising that my friend on the opposition bench, Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, should go to the defence of Mr. Vellingiri Goundar seeing that both of them represent the same constituency. There is nothing in what my friend Mr. Tanikachala Chettiyar had said which could be taken exception to. My friend Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, in defending Mr. Vellingiri Goundar, said that the ryots were not benefited, and that the sons of the soil were not educated in the school so that they might go back to their fields and utilize their agricultural knowledge on their own farms.

"Well, Sir, on the question of the benefits, I have already submitted to
12-45 p.m. this House that judging only from the seed rate more than a crore of rupees has been saved, and that the various diseases that were prevented or cured in the case of the extensive vine yards in the Madura district showed what profits were derived owing to the work of these Agricultural officers. Sir, I shall mention only one other instance, because there is no use repeating those to which reference had already been made by me if hon. Members like my friend Mr. Vellingiri Goundar are not prepared to accept our statements. Reference has been made to the work of the Agricultural Department and of the experts in dealing with the cotton diseases of the Coimbatore district, and the new strains that were introduced there, and also to the development of cotton cultivation in the districts on that side. Quite recently the department has prepared an estimate of the work done there, and the benefit that has accrued to the people thereby. From the year 1908 to the year 1918, we calculated the benefits that were derived by the people on account of the Agricultural Department and by their advice on the one single item of the strains that were employed eliminating all factors like the average rise of prices due to world causes. It has been found that the money value of the increased output—not due to other causes but that due to our own exertions—came to Rs. 50,00,000 and that in one year alone. The value of the produce of the year 1918 alone was increased by Rs. 50,00,000, and this covered, I was about to say, the whole expenditure of the Agricultural Department, from the year 1908 to 1918. Let me emphasise this, Sir, with your kind permission. From the year 1908 to the year 1918, for a period of ten years, the cost of the Agricultural Department was not more than Rs. 40,00,000, and the increased profits made by the cotton producers in those districts, profits which could be attributed only to the work of the Agricultural Department and the research work of the experts in one single

[Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu] [24th March 1922]

year, viz., 1918, alone, came to Rs. 50 lakhs. In calculating that, they have eliminated the increase in prices due to world causes and the various expenses that must have necessarily been incurred in producing cotton. Eliminating all these causes, and taking into account only this single cause of the work done by the department of Agriculture, it has been discovered that an extra profit of something like Rs. 50 lakhs has been made by the ryots in a single year. Now, I leave it to the House to judge whether in the face of these circumstances it is justifiable to say that the ryots have not been benefited by the Agricultural Department or by the work of the Agricultural experts."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"What I said was that the benefit to the ryots was not as much as may be commensurate with the amount spent."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU:—"I am giving an estimate of the amounts spent. From the year 1908 to the year 1918, the whole cost of the Agricultural Department was only Rs. 40 lakhs, and in the year 1918 alone, the increased profits due to the direct result of our work was Rs. 50 lakhs."

Sriman SASI BHUSHANA RATH Mahasayo:—"May I know, Sir, what is the basis of these statistics?"

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU:—"I have no objection to place the details of these calculations before my hon. Friend and he is at liberty to criticise them."

"Well, Sir, as regards the question of the sons of the soil, my friends are carrying coals to Newcastle when they suggest it to me. My friend from the Kistna district knows that I belong to an agricultural family, and if any one can claim to be interested in the agriculturists of this country, I can lay as much claim to it as anybody else. Well, on this question of the sons of agriculturists being trained in agriculture, you, Sir, Mr. President and your Secretary are well aware that attempts in that direction were made, and in fact I have got in my office a number of reports from our worthy Secretary when he was Director of Agriculture wherein he complained of this very thing and wanted to induce agriculturists to send their sons for agricultural training. We recognize that the elementary duty of this department and the object of this agricultural college is to see that the sons of the soil, sons of agriculturists are trained, so that they may go to their fields and utilize that knowledge on their own farms. But unfortunately in this country, our people are so educated that their studies are only pursued for gaining wages or salaries. For years our own university education has been like that. What can we do? Fifty years of university education have not produced a single inventor in this country. And why? Because we have been trained to be officers or clerks or something of that kind. Education for itself, for its own sake, has not been attempted in this land, and it is a curse of the country itself and not a fault of the Department of Agriculture or of the authorities of the Agricultural College. Why lay it at the door of the Agricultural College them? By all means let them (the sons of agriculturists) come, we welcome them and we are prepared to give them scholarships. Nothing would please the Agricultural Department and myself or the Government more than to admit them to the agricultural classes, and to see that they are trained, because we know that those who serve the Government in

24th March 1922] [Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudù]

these departments after all, however good the work they have done, do it for the sake of their own appointments, whereas if the sons of the soil are trained we recognize that they get the training for the country's and for their benefit and for their advancement, and when the production is increased, naturally the national wealth will be increased and it will be of great benefit to the country at large. To charge us therefore that the sons of the soil have not got the benefit, to charge the Agricultural department or the authorities of the College of Agriculture is, I think Sir, not fair.

"Now I shall turn to the more reasonable criticisms, if I may say so, of my Friend Mr. Ramachandra Rao and others. Mr. Ramachandra Rao, Sir, was referring to chemical manures. I am aware, just as he is—we belong to the same place and the same district—that almost all the earth known as 'pati' earth is being dug out and if we go to the agricultural villages of those parts, we shall find nothing but big pits going to 20 feet below the surface of the earth. The attention of the Government was drawn long ago to the existence of these pits, and various attempts have been made to replace this 'pati' earth by chemical manures. Reference has been made to the fact that it was advised that these manures should be obtained from Messrs. Parry & Co. Well, Sir, I do not know what harm there is in so doing when there is only one firm which is able to supply these manures. Why should we not recommend the people to go to that company? Those of our friends who have seen the Ranipet works are in a position to know what attempts they are making to produce these manures. It may be in the first place in their own interest and to get profits, but at the same time it is a work which is not done by others, and certainly the people of this country ought to be thankful to Messrs. Parry & Co. for their exertions in trying to produce these manures. It has been said, Sir, that the railway fares are in the way. That is quite true, and I may tell my hon. Friend for his information that this Government have been trying their best to induce the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company and the South Indian Railway Company to charge lower fares for the freight of the manures from one part of the Presidency to another. Unfortunately, we have not yet been able to make them consent. They put one or two conditions, namely, that a certain number of tons should be carried every year because it may not be possible for them to carry small lots as they cannot make arrangements for it. There was also another difficulty as regards carriages, because they wanted to carry it in open trucks, and we could not consent to it, because owing to exposure in the air and moisture the manures would be spoiled if so carried. But still the question has not been given up, and it is now under correspondence between this Government and the Government of India. No pains will be spared and every possible attempt will be made to see that some concession is obtained from these authorities. I am afraid we cannot compel them, but we must only appeal to their good sense and better patriotism, and I expect, Sir, whoever may be the authorities, they will be patriotic enough so long as they are in this country.

"Well, Sir, my friend has referred to fish guano, fish manures and other forms of manure and wanted that the Government should undertake the preparation of these manures. Let me at once inform my hon. Friend that Agricultural officers have been collecting and mixing up new forms of manure and selling them in the Tanjore district. If we go further than that, it would at once make the Government a trading firm, which it is not the

[Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu] [24th March 1922]

intention of Government to become, nor will it be the idea of any one here to drive Government to that length. It is not right that Government should compete with private enterprise when there is a firm forthcoming willing and ready to prepare these manures and sell them. Certainly all that the Government could do is to negotiate with them for better terms, but certainly not to compete with them on a commercial basis and any arrangement that we might make in the preparation of these manures or selling them will at once be challenged by merchants who would say that Government have no business to come into the trade. All the same, Sir, we have been doing some pioneering work and to that extent we are in conflict with traders. Hon. Members are perhaps aware that in the Trichinopoly district there are what are known as phosphatic nodules. Phosphorus is to be found in the stones all over the district, almost on the surface and more often buried in the earth. And the Director of Industries is just now engaged in carrying on experiments in that direction. If we succeed, I put it cautiously, Sir, if we succeed, because it is after all an experiment and all experiments are beset with the possibilities of failure, certainly we may be in a position to place at the disposal of the country large quantities of phosphatic manures. The 'pati' earth in the Godavari and Kistna districts is really the old earth of deserted villages, the nitrates and the salts used by the people going to the bottom of the earth or at least underneath the surface of the earth and getting mixed up with the earth; that earth is used in these districts. The fact is that there is more phosphorus in it, and if this phosphatic nodules problem should become a success, it can certainly replace that 'pati' earth successfully. Then, Sir, there is the question of fish manure and fish guano, to which reference has been made by Mr. Ramachandra Rao, and there is the farm manure and the cattle manure, and then there is the green manure. In the Godavari and Kistna districts, as my hon. Friend is aware, apart from the green leaves of the forest known in the Guntur district, they raise certain crops, sunhemp for instance, allow it to grow until it flowers, then cut it and till the land with it, with the result that a manure is obtained. All these things have been engaging the attention of the Government of Madras and the department of Industries and the department of Agriculture. I do not think, Sir, that it will be fair to us to say that this question of manures has not been attended to, or that sufficient attention has not been paid to it."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" Sir, I do not wish to take up the time of the House in replying to what my hon. Friend said, for he made several observations, and I have no time to cover the whole ground. Nevertheless, I hope he will profit by the criticisms that have been offered in this House. I should think, Sir, that the hon. the Minister has made a too zealous and too one-sided defence of the departments under his control. It is only natural and I do not wish to dilate very much on the points he has made. But I think he must recognize that the whole result of agricultural education at any rate so far as it has been given hitherto has been to supply the department with officers.

" I am perfectly certain that nobody who knows the history of our agricultural organization in this Presidency will deny the fact that the
 1 p.m. object of the Agricultural department in this Presidency has been merely to satisfy departmental needs and not necessarily to place at the disposal of the people a system of general agricultural education. As it is my hon.

24th March 1922] [Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao Pantulu]

Friend will concede that, notwithstanding the very many pious resolutions that have been passed at agricultural conferences, the whole system of agricultural education has not been perfected with a view to place it at the disposal of the people. I maintain, whatever may be said to the contrary, that that criticism is just and that every hon. Member who criticized the system in that way is just."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—" I concede that myself, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" Of that I am glad. Therefore, I think, Sir, that this criticism by Mr. Vellingiri Goundar and Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar is made with a view to emphasise the point that the system of education should be so changed as to adapt it to the agriculturists' needs. I do not wish to go into the various matters referred to by my hon. Friends. Even Mr. Tanikachala Chettiyar seems to have a complaint against the Minister—"

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—" His complaint was that I did not demand more funds."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" There ought to be an agricultural organization in this country perfect in all respects. The hon. the Minister in charge referred to the fact that Messrs. Parry & Co. are already dealing in manures and said he should not come into collision with private enterprise. I trust the Minister will see the limitation of that doctrine. That doctrine was accepted for years and I believe it has been dethroned by the Industrial Commission and in a matter such as this where tremendous quantities of bones are exported from the east coast which could be made available at a nominal cost, if a little trouble was taken by the department of Agriculture, I submit, Sir, that to stand by this doctrine of colliding with trade interests cannot be accepted at any rate by me. I think Mr. Arpudaswami Udaiyar also referred to this matter. I am perfectly aware of the methods of improving the soil. Agriculturists say that this is not enough now and that artificial manures have come into use. It is right policy to use them wherever they can be applied with advantage. There is one other matter which I would like to refer to. My hon. Friend Mr. Arpudaswami Udaiyar was rather inclined to support the Publicity Bureau as against demonstration. I think, Sir, there is no use publishing a number of leaflets. I am myself a member of the Publicity Bureau and I know something of that body and its limitations. What is wanted for the ryot is ocular demonstration which cannot be made by the Publicity Bureau."

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAIYAR :—" I also spoke of exhibitions being held in districts."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" I do not answer my Friend. If we have an enormous finance at our disposal, we may get exhibitions in this matter too. In fact exhibitions are not quite favoured just at present. I think the object of this motion has been stated; and I trust in the matter of demonstration my hon. Friend said that he is negotiating with the Government of India and he must in the matter of freight entirely depend upon the good sense of the railway company. I believe the question of rates are entirely with the Government of India. And even as regards the railway companies, their rates are always subject to the sanction of the Railway Board and I believe that a committee is about to be

[Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao Pantulu] [24th March 1922]

constituted in consequence of the Railway Commission's report. I withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 602 to 604.

The following motions were not made :—

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—

602. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,28,421 for Agriculture by Rs. 1,00,000.*

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—

603. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,28,421 for Agriculture by Rs. 5,000.*

Rao Bahadur T. BALAJI RAO NAYUDU :—

604. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,28,421 for Agriculture by Rs. 3,80,100.*

Motion 605.

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

605. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14'82 lakhs for Agriculture by Rs. 100.*

"In view of the fact that the question has been discussed from various standpoints on the motion of Mr. Ramachandra Rao, I have very little to add. And if I now say anything I would lay special emphasis upon two aspects and leave it to the department to pay sufficient attention to those matters. I may premise by saying that the hon. the Minister need not enter into any special defence when such criticisms are offered and need not be under the impression that any such criticism is merely intended to expose the faults of the department. On the other hand, this is just the time and place for any useful suggestions to be made regarding the work of the department and we hope that these suggestions, in the fulness of time, be given careful consideration. I do not subscribe to the view that the Agricultural department is not in any way useful or that it is not doing useful work. And there is no one here who will advocate that appropriate funds ought not to be voted for the maintenance of the institutions. If still members find it necessary to draw attention to certain defects, it is because they feel that, notwithstanding the work hitherto done in the past, the work actually turned out is not satisfactory and really useful to the masses. The only point that I wish the hon. the Minister to consider is that while forgetting his calculations of the 50 lakhs that have been spent on the department and the 50 lakhs that have been saved in cotton in one year, he will consider whether the benefits that can be expected have been afforded to the peoples concerned and if not, what are the causes which have led to such a state of things. There is no use of justifying the institutions or the experts or the experiments so far as it is not possible for him to satisfy the public at large who are really the people for whom these schemes are meant to be beneficial. Within the limited time at my disposal, I cannot expand the subject. But judged by the results of the operations, it will be seen that the people have not really been benefited by it.

24th March 1922]

[Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu]

“No doubt the problem for consideration is whether a bureau of information in central places would be useful. The hon. Member Mr. Tanga-velu Pillai drew attention to it and the hon. the Minister promised to make inquiries. I only wish to ask whether the officers touring in the districts did specially take advantage of their presence and hold conferences with agriculturists and elicit information from them. Reports of touring might have been sent up and those reports might have been considered by the superior officers. What I really think it necessary is whether in each and every one of their tours they made it a point to have a conference with the leading agriculturists of the locality and discuss with them the problems affecting agricultural improvements.

“In addition to it the formation of boards in each district or at least in important centres will serve a useful purpose. My hon. Friend referred to the Central Advisory Board. But that will not serve much useful purpose. The conditions in each district are different and the Central Advisory Board can perhaps discuss general questions of policy for the whole of the Presidency. But so far as particular districts are concerned, there must be similar boards constituted in each centre on a satisfactory basis.

“The second point is that sufficient attention has not been given to the question of agricultural education in the lower stages. It will be remembered that from 1913 and 1914 onwards, various resolutions were moved in this Council for the establishment of agricultural schools in several districts. This was considered very desirable even in the various conferences held for the purpose, and recommendations also were made for the establishment of agricultural schools. I may particularly refer to the conference at Simla on the 18th and 19th June 1917. There it was specifically stated notwithstanding the discordant note by Mr. Wood—

‘The conference are of opinion that it should be laid down as a goal that every rural district should have one or more agricultural middle schools usually situated near to demonstration or experimental farms.’

“Mr. Wood wishes to qualify acceptance so far as regards Madras by expressing his view that for that province concentration on demonstration is more desirable than the establishment of schools. These resolutions were passed in the year 1917; but the hon. the Minister will be satisfied that very little has been done to give effect to the recommendations of the conference.

“Again, Sir, coming to the question of primary education, it will be found that definite suggestions were made at the conference as to the extent to which primary education should be made useful to the masses.

‘The conference also strongly insist on the desirability of adapting primary education in rural areas more closely to rural needs. Whilst agreeing that no attempt should be made in primary schools to teach agriculture or horticulture as such, the following suggestions are made towards the solution of this problem. Nature study should be made a necessary part of the curriculum in rural schools.’

“And then they say that ‘special attention should be paid to the training of rural teachers, preferably in a separate training school’ and that ‘the Agricultural department should, when opportunity offers, co-operate by vacation courses for such teachers.’

“In spite of these two important things, I wish to know if anything has been done in the way of training teachers in the matter of agriculture so as to enable them to get the advantage of the training and to give proper

[Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu] [24th March 1922]

instruction to their pupils on the subject. I believe, Sir, that whatever might be the result of the instruction given in the Agricultural College, whatever might be the final result of the experiments carried on, it may be taken for granted that if the mass of the people of the country ought to be benefited, it must be through these new types of schools brought into existence in large numbers. And unless definite steps are taken in the direction, I do not think any benefit would come out of the operations of this department."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"My hon.

1-15 p.m.

Friend started by saying that we should not object to criticisms for it was not at all the object of this House to minimise the usefulness of the Agricultural College or the expert staff, but that useful suggestions were made in this House for the benefit of the department and the Minister in charge. That spirit, Sir, I fully appreciate, if I may so put it, and no one will be more glad than I to receive any such criticism. My learned Friend has said that there is no use in merely justifying the experts or the college. He was perfectly justified in saying that from his own point of view. I thank him for it. But there are others, Sir, who stated that the department was 'barren of all results' and had 'not emerged from the stage of experiments,' and so on and so forth. I am glad, Sir, at the turn the debate has taken to-day. From an attack against the college and the experts, it is now suggested that we are all right, that our experts are pretty good people, that the college has now done some little good work, but that we must see that the knowledge of such good work is brought to the country and that the agriculturist is benefited by it. I welcome that criticism, but let me tell them that even in that direction we have not been idle. We have got a regular staff of demonstrators, upper subordinates and lower subordinates. About 125 of them are going about the districts and are spreading the knowledge and the results not merely of the experiments in the Research Institute, but of the experiments on the Government farms, and these results are carried even to the fields of the agriculturists. Let me explain further. The first stage for the expert is to find out something, whether it be the cause of a disease, the life-history and the cure of those mischievous little things, the bacilli or the microbes or whatever they may be called, or it may be to produce a new strain by the combination of different plants from the flowers of two different plants. That is one thing which I hope many of my hon. Friends—I know some of them have seen—will go and have a look at in this Institute, how from the male flower of one plant and from the female flower of another plant, eliminating the female of the first one and the male of the other, a combination is made and a new strain is produced. When this is done, Sir, it is experimented on the farm at Coimbatore. When that succeeds and a new strain has been obtained, it is transplanted in the farm and a small tract of land is cultivated with the new strain. That does not suffice, because what grows in Coimbatore may not grow elsewhere. Then it is taken to the farm at Samalkota if it is the Northern Circle, or to Manganallur if it is the Southern Circle, or to Taliparamba if it is the West Coast and experiment is made there. A certain plot of land in this new locality is cultivated with that new strain and the result is found out. When this is done, the demonstrators come into operation; they take the seed to the ryots, ask them to try this new strain on their own fields under the supervision of the demonstrator

24th March 1922] [Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu]

or under higher officers. They supply the new seed, tell them what manure to use, at what time to sow, and supervise the cultivation of the crop. All that is demonstration and propaganda work. I take it.

"Then, Sir, there is the Publicity Bureau which sends out considerable literature on these subjects every year. Apart from the Publicity Bureau the Agricultural department itself publishes numerous pamphlets by the thousand and by the lakh and distributes them freely. The 125 demonstrators and other officers are mainly intended for the single purpose of carrying this knowledge to the agriculturist and they are, I contend, doing their work quite satisfactorily. Of course, I appreciate my hon. Friend's criticism that more ought to be done. Certainly I shall be glad to get more done. But the trouble again is the Finance department. We have to cut our coat according to the cloth that is supplied. But I have no reason to complain that a large cut has been made in my department either by the Finance department or by this House. Still we do want more money and then only greater developments will be possible.

"There is one other point which was referred to. The hon. Member Mr. Krishna Rao asked what has been done with regard to the proceedings of the Board of Agriculture and two questions were raised, namely, elementary education and middle schools. As to middle schools a committee was appointed by the Madras Government some three or four years ago on which there were three members of the Educational department and three members of the Agricultural department. They came to the conclusion that one school should be tried in each centre; one in the Telugu country somewhere near Anakapalle, another in the south in the Tamil country and a third on the West Coast. In the West Coast, the Taliparamba school should have been started this year. But unfortunately the buildings were delayed. But I may tell the House that the buildings are nearing completion and we expect to start the school in a very few months. Orders have also been issued for the school at Anakapalle. Unfortunately again, the question of finance came in our way. I may also bring to the notice of the House that we wanted to have the school building and the quarters for the staff and teachers at Taliparamba to come into existence long ago. But it was discovered that the Public Works department estimated these at Rs. 85,000. Well, I said that it was impossible. I may say that it was the late Mr. Stuart who sat with me for three hours on one occasion to discuss this one question and took away the papers, saying, 'I do not want to send it to the Public Works department, but I will do it myself.' We have got now an estimate for something like Rs. 25,000 or for nearly one-fourth of the original cost. This was approved and the buildings are nearing completion. But even Rs. 25,000 in a year like this would not be a possibility for a secondary school, for added to the further expenditure on the staff and on the students—because some scholarships will have to be given to students to attract them—it will come to a large amount. If money is forthcoming to-morrow I shall be able to open a school at Anakapalle and one in Palur in the south or in some other places. But funds are wanting and schools could not be opened. It is not because the Government are wanting in sympathy for this education. It is not because we have not made attempts to start the schools. In fact, we have appointed committees, we have the reports, we have got the schemes ready, the only thing wanting is that blessed thing which is wanting in the budgets of all countries just now—money.

[Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu] [24th March 1922]

"As regards elementary education, similar attempts have been made at Anakapalle and Samalkota, where we have elementary schools and where farmers' sons are given the elements of education in agriculture and in Palur also there is a school. We recognize that it is not enough. It was stated a little while ago that 80 per cent of the population of this country consists of agriculturists, and it is only right that agricultural education should be brought home to these villagers. It is a great problem, Sir, and one in which the co-operation of the Education department is absolutely necessary. But I may tell again, Sir, for the information of this House, that my hon. Colleague the Minister for Education has been trying to introduce agricultural classes in the elementary schools and with my consent and with my co-operation he has been able to appoint an ordinary teacher, an L.T., to sit together with an officer of the Agricultural department and prepare text-books for these elementary schools in agriculture in the vernaculars. These two officers are just now working at it. As soon as the text-books are ready, I expect my hon. Friend Mr. Patro to introduce these text-books into the curriculum of the elementary schools; for each class certain hours in their education are to be devoted to agricultural studies. Hon. Members are probably aware that already there is what is known as gardening, however insignificant it may be at present. It has already been introduced in the elementary schools. With the help of these agricultural classes and with the help of the little gardens that they have got in the schools some little education in agriculture it is possible to give. But that does not in the least take away my responsibility or the responsibility of my department for the spread of agricultural education. But I may say again that it is not because we have not made any attempts to do it but because we have no funds that we have not been able to do more."

Mr. V. C. VELLINGURI GOUNDAR :—"Sir, I have no time to speak on the farms, but now let me say a word about the farms started under the auspices of this department.

"The central farm at Coimbatore can be worked on really economical and profitable lines, if there is not such a costly staff of supervision, and there can be established a really good breeding farm with adequate provision for grazing grounds, thus saving unnecessary purchase of cattle, bulls and also fodder.

"The farm at Chintaladevi appears to me to be an excellent idea. But what has been hitherto done and proposed to be done makes me pessimistic as to its future not only from the point of view of utility, but also from the point of view of economy. This scheme was taken on hand in 1918, and before the farm was started, Government got the live-stock expert, and after the lapse of so many years, the roads are being laid out. The place is thirty-six miles from the nearest railway station and a wind-screen of trees is being formed and the belt of trees to form as a wind-break has just begun to grow, but apparently rainfall is not quite so favourable. Of course the Public Works department has started work on its usual scale--the work of putting up buildings and quarters. After all, this is to be an experimental farm and perhaps by the time the grand buildings and quarters are completed, the experiments may have to be given up.

"The same is my complaint with regard to the other farms, like the Pollachi cotton farm, where buildings and roads are just complete. The

24th March 1922] [Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Goundar]

Koilpatti, the Samalkota and Bantanahel farms are other instances. Now, is it the right thing to proceed in this manner with regard to experiments? To have costly experts who can never get into touch with the ryots and who have to learn after coming here Indian conditions, Indian climate and Indian ryots and who have to undergo training to start with, to have costly buildings and quarters, and then to write learned treatises on technical and scientific matters which are unintelligible to the ryots. What I would suggest is, that Government should give up the policy with regard to experimental farms and instead start on small scales demonstration farms and have a staff who can understand the language of the country and know the local conditions and who can get the ryots to co-operate with them. I would even welcome the opening in every taluk centre such demonstration farms with the help of students passed out of the college, where ryots themselves can be induced to cultivate on certain agreeable terms. To go even further, inducement in the shape of rewards, prizes or compensation can be offered to the ryots to induce them to take to methods of cultivation which the department thinks are of use to them. It is in this way by direct touch with the ryot that agriculture can be improved by departmental action and not by the expert working at the microscope and writing learned theses. The ryots in Coimbatore and in the delta tracts particularly are intelligent folk and are most hard-working and if they have not derived any substantial benefit from the department, there can be no greater condemnation. The only real and practical things which the department has done for the ryot are the improvement of cotton cultivation, spreading single seed planting of paddy, some improvements in sugar-cane selection, pumping installations, treating palm diseases, green manure seeds, etc. But all this is out of all proportion to the colossal amounts consumed by the department and its officers and experts.

“The department is fond of dreaming in crores of money being saved to the ryot if the single seed planting and other improvements are adopted universally. This estimate in my humble opinion, exists only in imagination and can never be realized in practice.”

“Another point of mine with regard to experimental farms on a large scale is this. After the experiment is demonstrated to be a success, the necessity for its being continued ceases to exist, and the farm should be discontinued and further fields of work and development of other branches in the order of importance to the ryot must be taken up and new experiments tried. If this is conceded, where is the necessity for costly structures and residential quarters on these farms? If these farms are intended to be demonstration farms to the ordinary ryot and labourer for whose benefit the department should carry on its activities, what is the meaning in having grand structures and well laid out quarters? In my opinion, they are so much money thrown away besides their scaring away the ryot, as I said, by their very grandeur. The buildings on these farms, or of any schools, or institute in agriculture should be on the simplest and cheapest scale designed for temporary purposes and most particularly on the demonstration and experimental farms. Ambitious schemes with regard to buildings, etc., should at once be given up and opening of new farms and schools should only be undertaken after conference with the local ryots and not on mere resolutions of this Council or on one-sided expert opinion.”

[24th March 1922]

[The hon. Member was obliged to resume his seat as his time-limit was over.]

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The time allotted for the discussion of Demand XIX—Agriculture having expired, the hon. the President put the question that the Government be given 14·82 lakhs of rupees *minus* Rs. 2,400 for the Agriculture department and it was carried.

The grant was made.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Before the House adjourns for lunch, I would mention that it would probably be convenient if we take up immediately after lunch items of business II, III, IV and V on the agenda paper. The first is a piece of legislation which has to be got through and passed before the 1st April. The second is an amendment to the Standing Orders. And the other two relate to elections to committees. So, if hon. Members have no objection, I shall take up items II, III, IV and V immediately after lunch. (The hon. Members signified their assent.) That being settled, the House will now adjourn for lunch and meet again at 2-30 p.m."

The House then adjourned for lunch at 1-34 p.m. and re-assembled at 2-35 p.m.

II

A BILL TO AMEND THE COURT FEES ACT, 1870.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The following communication has been received from His Excellency the Governor in respect of the Bill to amend the Court-Fees Act, 1870, which was passed at the meeting of the Council held on the 15th March last and was subsequently presented to His Excellency the Governor for his assent:—

Message from His Excellency the Governor.

The proviso which has been added by clause 6 of the Madras Court-Fees (Amendment) Bill to paragraph (iv) of section 7 of the principal Act provides for the calculation of the value of immovable property 'in the manner provided for by the next succeeding paragraph'. The next succeeding paragraph here referred to is obviously paragraph (v) of section 7 of the principal Act. But clause 7 of the Bill has introduced another paragraph—paragraph (iv) (a)—between paragraphs (iv) and (v) of section 7 of the principal Act. The paragraph next succeeding paragraph (iv) of section 7 of the principal Act would thus be paragraph (iv) (a) and not paragraph (v). His Excellency the Governor thinks that in clause 6 of the Bill the words 'the next succeeding paragraph' should be omitted and the words 'paragraph (v) of this section' substituted in their stead.

2. In clause 9 of the Bill the substitution of the word 'instituted' for the penultimate word 'filed' would, His Excellency the Governor considers, be a verbal improvement in the Bill.

3. To avoid possible doubts as to the true scope and interpretation of article 11 of Schedule II it seems desirable to *omit* the words 'and not otherwise provided for in this Act'.

24th March 1922]

[The President]

4. His Excellency the Governor therefore returns the Bill to the Council for the consideration of the following amendments :—

Clause 6.—At the end, *omit* the words ‘the next succeeding paragraph’ and *substitute* in their stead the words ‘paragraph (v) of this section’.

Clause 9.—For the penultimate word ‘filed’ *substitute* the word ‘instituted’.

Schedule II, article 11.—In column 1, *omit* the words ‘and not otherwise provided for in this Act’.

The hon. Mr. K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“Mr. President, Sir, I want to explain to the House the necessity for these amendments. The House will remember that there was an amendment proposed by Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar in which the words ‘as the next succeeding paragraph’ occurred. If there had been no further amendment, there would have been no trouble. But subsequently Mr. N. A. V. Somasundaram Pillai put forward another amendment to insert a new clause—clause 4 (a)—between clauses 4 and 5. That amendment was carried, and now the next succeeding paragraph would be, if the present wording is retained, clause 4 (a) and not clause 5 as was the intention of the House. That is the first amendment. The next amendment has to be introduced owing to a clerical error. The word ‘instituted’ is to be substituted for the word ‘filed’ to bring the language in conformity with the technical expression. In Schedule II, article 11, column 1, the words ‘not otherwise provided for in this Act’ finds a place owing to the mistake of the copyist. If you read article 1 of Schedule I you will find ‘... or memorandum of appeal (not otherwise provided for in this Act)’. It is in order to avoid that, that this amendment is proposed. All the amendments are only verbal amendments.”

The hon. the President then put the following amendments to the House and they were carried :—

Clause 6.—At the end, *omit* the words ‘the next succeeding paragraph’ and *substitute* in their stead the words ‘paragraph (v) of this section.’

Clause 9.—For the penultimate word ‘filed’ *substitute* the word ‘instituted.’

Schedule II, article 11.—In column 1, *omit* the words ‘and not otherwise provided for in this Act.’

III

AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“The hon. Mr. K. Srinivasa Ayyangar wants leave to amend Standing Order 40 as follows :—

‘(1) At the commencement of paragraph (1) of Standing Order 40 *insert* the words ‘The Member of the Government in charge of the Law Department shall ex officio be the Chairman of every Select Committee’; and

‘(2) In paragraph 3 of the same Standing Order, *omit* the first sentence.’

“Does any hon. Member object to it?”

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—“I object, Sir.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Hon. Members who are for the introduction of these amendments to the Standing Orders will please rise in their places.”

Six hon. Members stood up.

[24th March 1922]

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI:—"A point of order, Sir. The Council Secretary rises not from his seat but from the seat of another Member. Is he in order?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The rule that Members should rise from their seats is only for the poll. Only six hon. Members are for the introduction of the amendments to the Standing Orders. Therefore the hon. Mr. K. Srinivasa Ayyangar has not the leave of the House."

IV

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER:—"Sir, I beg to make the motion standing against my name:—

That with a view to the constitution, in pursuance of rule 33 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, of a committee on Public Accounts for the year 1922-23, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the hon. the President to elect seven members to be members of the said committee.

"In moving this proposition I should like to express my regret that it has been possible to make very little use of this committee of all the talents for the reason that the function of the committee is to examine the expenditure of the funds voted by the Council and that the accounts dealing with the first budget voted by the Council will not be ready till next September. We have done what preliminary work we could this year and there will be plenty of work from September onwards for the new committee."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I fix 6 p.m. to-day as the latest hour for nomination of candidates for election. If the nominations are sent to the Secretary, the time for the election, if necessary, will be fixed later on."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I should like to know if any nomination forms are to be filled up?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"You have only to write in a piece of paper: 'I propose the following members as members of the Public Accounts Committee' and then fill in the names. The consent of the nominated member should be obtained before nominating him. I fix 6 p.m. to-day as the latest hour for the nomination papers to reach the Secretary so that hon. Members may have time for consultation. If the number of names proposed is equal to the number of seats, then there will be no election."

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER:—"Would it be possible to give a little more time so that consent may be taken from Members who are not present to-day?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The Member nominating can in most cases anticipate the wishes of the Member whose name he proposes; he would ordinarily know whether his nominee would be willing or not. He can act upon that knowledge."

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER:—"I only made the suggestion, Sir, because I feel responsible in a measure for springing this motion on the Council. There is no great hurry about the election of the committee. It will begin its operations only after April."

24th March 1922]

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"In view of the fact that we have to finish the agenda if possible before the prorogation of the session by His Excellency, I do not propose to postpone the date."

V

FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1922-23.

2-45 p.m. The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—"I beg to make the following motion :—

That in accordance with resolution No. 17, passed at the meeting of the Council on 1st April 1921, regarding the constitution of a Finance Committee, this Council do proceed, on a date to be fixed by the hon. the President, to elect six persons to be members of the committee for the year 1922-23.

"In so doing, I should like to say how much the Government appreciate the sacrifice of time and talents that has been made by the members of the existing Finance Committee, upon whom there has been imposed a very heavy burden of work since their appointment. They have held no less than 22 meetings, and I hope they will hold two more before the end of the year. They have digested a great mass of figures and have advised in great detail upon the budget as well as upon a large number of other matters perhaps most important of which was the question of the revision of the pay of the Madras city constabulary. I need hardly add that they have treated the Finance Department and the Finance Member with the greatest kindness and consideration, and they have our most grateful thanks for all the help that they have given us in our work. Their successors will, I am afraid, have an equally hard task, if not a harder one. But, as in the case of the Public Accounts Committee, they will not be asked to take it up until after the 1st April. As I have just said, I hope to secure the co-operation of the members of the existing committee for two more meetings, one for certain urgent grants which must be put forward before we finish our discussions, the other to examine the question of any changes that are needed in the budget procedure in the light of what has been said in the Council during the present debates."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD HABIB-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—"I second it."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"In supporting this motion may I be permitted to say that we, the members of the Finance Committee, have received always from the hands of the hon. the Finance Member, Sir Charles Todhunter, uniform courtesy and kindness. We troubled him very often with requests for information, and whenever the request was made he was always cheerfully complying with it. He placed the whole staff of his at our disposal, and he was always kind and ready to supply us with any information and to oblige us in every way. We take this opportunity of tendering our best thanks to the hon. Sir Charles Todhunter for all the kindness that we received at his hands during the last year."

The motion was put and carried.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Here again, I have to announce the time within which nominations have to be sent in to the Secretary. I fix 6 p.m. to-morrow as the latest hour for these nominations."

[24 th March 1922]

I—cont.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—cont.

DEMAND XX—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES.

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, I beg leave to move that this House be pleased to grant a sum of 5.96 lakhs under Demand XX--Civil Veterinary Services."

Motion 606.

The following motion was not made :--

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :--

606. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 16,000 for travelling allowance by Rs. 1,600.*

Motion 607.

Mr. A. T. PALMER :—" Mr. President, Sir, I make the following motion :--

607. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for veterinary hospitals to be opened during the year.*

"I do this, Sir, with some fear and trembling. (Laughter.) I fear because the Veterinary department being a necessary adjunct of all civilized governments, I will be labelled as an uncivilized being for making a motion of this kind. I tremble because I may be treated to a lecture on rinderpest and cattle diseases in general. But I may assure this House that I have no special aversion for this Veterinary Department. I only wanted to place before this House a suspicion that I have—a suspicion mostly based on personal observation—that some of the veterinary hospitals, at any rate, are lying idle. If you go to any prominent place, Sir, these veterinary hospitals are sure to attract your attention with their big signboards, fine compound walls and very nicely white-washed buildings and enormous sheds that could accommodate even elephants. But I am hardly aware of any patients, equine, canine, bovine and ovine, coming to them. And you can see the veterinary doctor with his assinine (laughter) patience whiling away his time because he has no other work to do. I believe, Sir, that these veterinary hospitals are placed in wrong places. I think they ought to be more rural than urban. In these days of motor-cars I do not think veterinary hospitals situated in towns have much work. On the other hand, if they are placed in country places very near villages, I think they will be of greater use. If the hon. Minister for Development looks into the case and closes down those hospitals that are lying idle and opens up hospitals in places where they are really needed, I shall be very thankful to him. The second thing I wish to draw his attention to is the personnel of the Veterinary Department. I have come across men who are afraid to go near even dogs that are dying, who cannot approach a bull or a cow without a long stick in their hands. I have come across men who are afraid of a buffalo, and they leave all the work to the hospital servants and they do little work. I hope the hon. Minister will do something for improving the veterinary hospitals."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—" I am extremely sorry, Sir, that the experience of my hon. friend with the Veterinary Department has been so unfortunate. I do not think, Sir, the suggestion for the

24th March 1922] [Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu]

closing down of hospitals can be seriously considered by this House. It is well known, and it needs no repetition from me, that ours is an agricultural province and cattle are the first consideration of a ryot. These hospitals are intended for the benefit of the cattle. The suggestion that we ought to locate the hospitals, as far as possible in country places, in rural areas, certainly deserves consideration, and I am perfectly willing to see what can be done in that direction. There are also sheds at these hospitals which have accommodation for a considerable number of horses and cattle. My hon. Friend said that some of them were places big enough for elephants. That is true in places where elephants have to be treated, in places like Rajahmundry, Polavaram or Ocanada, in the Gōdāvari district to which my hon. Friend belongs and where I know there are a number of elephants to be treated. When we consider that the value of these elephants may range from one thousand rupees to twenty thousands, I do not think it can seriously be contended that they should be closed down because they have got room enough for big elephants. Mr. Muniswami Nayudu—I do not find the hon. Member here—had been dinning into my ears that I should provide a hospital at Chittoor. I may submit also that there are other requests, for instance, from the Raja of Ramnad who I am sorry is not able to be present owing to a domestic bereavement. He was pressing upon me the need for more of these hospitals. As a matter of fact, I asked for six hospitals and since the Finance Department could not find funds, I reduced the number to three and still further, for the same reason, reduced it to one. The provision of Rs. 2,000 is meant for a single hospital and I am very sorry that we are not able to get more money and that all my attempts to secure more have failed. In these circumstances, I hope my hon. Friend will not press his motion for the reduction of the provision for a single hospital."

Mr. A. T. PALMER :—"Sir, the hon. the Minister for Development might call for statistics in support of the statement that the cases of these hospitals having patients are few and far between. In those cases, I think the hon Minister can close the hospitals without any fear. I wish that the Ministers that we have appointed from this House show more personality and display strength and do something good for the country. I do not want them to go into the old ruts but I wish them to chalk out new paths of procedure. I might also say, Sir, that these veterinary men may be asked to carry on experiments on breeding of animals and so on which are entrusted to a separate department. I have no desire to press this motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XX was then put and granted *nem. con.*

DEMAND XXI—CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"I beg leave to move, Sir, for a grant of 6·81 lakhs under Demand XXI—Co-operative Societies."

Motion 608.

The following motion was not made :—

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—

608. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,29,000 for 23 assistant registrars by Rs. 10,000.

[24th March 1922]

Motion 609.

3 p.m. Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Sir, I beg to make the following motion :--

609. *To reduce eight assistant registrars of co-operative societies out of 17 on Rs. 300--850."*

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member must say by what amount he wants to reduce the grant."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :--" I want to reduce the provision of Rs. 1,29,000 by Rs. 50,000, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :--" Then hon. Member had better specifically move it in that form."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :--" Yes, Sir. I propose to *reduce the sum of Rs. 1,29,000 in detailed account No. 34-C. Agriculture—Co-operative societies, provision for assistant registrars, by Rs. 50,000.* The reason why I wish to reduce this number is this. Their chief work consists in the supervision of the work done by the Inspectors of Co-operative Societies. So far as my experience goes, the assistant registrar for the district of Chittoor and Cuddapah is not touring largely over the rural areas. So far as I was able to see, he issues instructions to the inspectors and the inspectors supervise the work of the existing societies and also they devote a portion of their time to organize new societies. The assistant registrar no doubt passes big proceedings criticising the work of the inspectors. But the real work that has to be done is to see not only whether the Inspectors are doing their work properly, but also to see whether the societies do their work properly. I think, Sir, that so far as the latter portion of the work is concerned, the assistant registrars do very little. If that is not their legitimate function, as I take it to be from what I see actually from their working, I fail to see why there should be so many as 17 assistant registrars and why that number should not be reduced by eight. Now, most of these societies are credit societies and each society contains a certain number of members. Their liabilities are unlimited. The president and the secretary of a rural society sometimes happen to be influential but needy members. It came to my notice, Sir, directly that an amount was borrowed in the names of some of the members, but it was appropriated by the president or the secretary or some other influential member in the names of the other members, and that too sometimes without their knowledge. Very many members in the rural places are illiterate persons and sometimes their marks are forged. These things have come to my notice and they have also been brought to the notice of the local authority. In the course of my touring in the villages, the same complaints have been made to me by several individual members : ' Sir, in my name money is taken. We are said to be the debtors, Sir. We have not taken a single pie out of it ' and so on. Now, what is the object of creating co-operative credit societies ? It is to help the poor people. It is not to help the influential. In that way, Sir, the poor are not benefited, while the societies themselves are brought into discredit and I am quite sure if such a state of things is allowed to continue for some time more, there will be no progress in co-operation at all in rural areas. I came to know that statements were recorded by inspectors in the Cuddapah town itself to the effect that no money was disbursed to them ; and that afterwards seeing their inconvenient position, the president and the secretary

24th March 1922]

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhaacharlu]

borrowed money elsewhere, paid up the amount and hushed up the matter. This incident, Sir, took place in a suburb of the Cuddapah town itself. It was brought to the notice of the Assistant Registrar, but I do not know what he has done about it. This is what takes place in my district and I do not know what is taking place in other districts. But I think human nature is the same in this respect in other districts as well. Therefore, if the duty of the Assistant Registrars does not consist in seeing actually that the amount is disbursed to the persons that are in need of the money, and to persons in whose name the money is taken out from the district central bank, I fail to see, Sir, why there should be so many as 17 Assistant Registrars for the purpose of merely supervising the work of the Inspectors. That is my chief point, Sir, and I submit that if the Assistant Registrars' duty does not consist in this respect also to the extent of finding out and seeing that the people are actually benefited by it, I think, Sir, there is absolutely no need for so many as 17. I may suggest also that whenever a society borrows money from the district central bank, the Assistant Registrar must be himself present and see that the money is actually distributed in his very presence to the members in whose names and for whose benefit it is borrowed. I think, Sir, that unless this is done, there will be no proper working at all, and I am quite sure that the societies themselves will be brought into disrepute and very shortly the whole fabric will tumble down. That, I submit, Sir, is the reason why I wish to reduce the allotment by Rs. 50,000."

Rao Bahadur T. BALAJI RAO NAYUDU :—"Sir, though my experience of the Assistant Registrars is different from what my friend has just now stated, yet I do not see the necessity for maintaining as many as 17 officers on very high salaries. There are 23 officers costing over Rs. 60,000 on Rs. 300 to Rs. 850 and only six are on Rs. 250. The men on Rs. 250 I am sure must have been doing as good work as the other officers drawing Rs. 300 to Rs. 850. So there is every reason to reduce the number. Besides, honorary men are being appointed to these places and they are doing the work exceedingly well. That being so, I do not see any necessity for keeping any men on higher salaries and spending a lot of money over them. I would, therefore, support this reduction and would request the Minister to remove them and replace them by new officers on Rs. 250.

"With these remarks I support the motion."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"Sir, so far as the policy that is now enunciated by my friend Mr. Balaji Rao Nayudu is concerned, I have been following it. Six officers were newly appointed on Rs. 250 each. As regards the others, certainly as opportunity occurs, we shall replace these Deputy Collector Assistant Registrars in accordance with the observations made in this House by hon. Members. I have said this on more than one occasion and that policy will continue. But it will be remembered, Sir, that the Revenue Department has obtained an increase in their cadre to the extent of ten members in the Deputy Collector's service in order to be lent to this department, and until that order is changed, we must abide by the orders of the Secretary of State. But of course there will still remain seven places and I may assure the House that at the first opportunity, as soon as one man goes out or resigns or wants to go back to the revenue line, or takes leave, I shall replace him by the less costly recruit. But as regards the change in the principle itself, Sir, I must sound a note of warning. It will be remembered, Sir, that this scheme is a new scheme and was started

[Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu] [24th March 1922]

only two years ago and intended to be reconsidered after five years. It is a temporary scheme and last year I explained to the House the necessity for these paid officers, that the work of organization and propaganda work in the earlier stages must be left in the hands of paid officers who alone could devote the time and energy necessary for these things. As a matter of fact, I may bring to the notice of the House that before the scheme was introduced, we had only 3,676 societies. In the first year that number was increased by 1,351, making up a total of 5,027 societies and by June 1921 another 1,261 societies were added, so that by the end of June 1921 we had 6,288 societies. That will work out, Sir, to a proportion of 58 per cent increase in the number of societies. In other words, where there were 100 societies, the department was able to increase their number to 158, and during the last six or seven months the number of societies must have gone up to at least 8,000. Now when all these societies are formed and are put on a stable basis, certainly the question will arise as regards the reorganization of the whole thing. As I have already submitted, these appointments are only temporary. No permanent appointment has been made. And, while we are still in the process of giving effect to the reorganization scheme, if we are asked to retrace our steps, I submit that it will defeat the very purpose with which we started. It is not intended that these officers should all be permanent. The question of removing or continuing or reducing their number will arise within three years more, and if we by that time have gained sufficient experience and if by that time a sufficient number of societies has been started and placed on a sound basis, certainly then the honorary agencies may be able to continue the work. As a matter of fact, we have at present 65 honorary assistant registrars. Some of them do excellent work and I am thankful to them for the work they have been doing and the time they devoted to that work. But, Sir, in the nature of things, a non-official gentleman, an honorary assistant registrar, can devote only his spare moments and leisure hours to work of this kind. So, in the beginning while the organization is going on and when societies are being formed and being placed on a proper footing, it is not possible, Sir, to expect this honorary agency to do all that is necessary in a matter like this. That, I think, Sir, should satisfy my friend so far as the number is concerned.

"My hon. Friend was referring to certain irregularities, or even crimes, I should call them, which seemed to have taken place in his district. Certainly, Sir, to forge another man's name and to draw money in the name of another is a crime for which I think sufficient punishment is provided in the Indian Penal Code. Certainly it is open to any one, not merely to the person affected, but to any one—if my knowledge of the Criminal Procedure Code is correct—to be a complainant in such a case. It should have been at once brought to the notice of the police and certainly I am going to inquire into it if my hon. Friend will give me the names of the persons and see that such action is taken as may be found to be necessary. But one thing, Sir, please judge of the work of these societies, or of that of Inspectors and Assistant Registrars by instances such as these.

"Human nature being what it is, crimes will be committed. But let that not deter us from doing our duty. In instance we have got the freedom of the press. In spite of the fact that there may be one newspaper here and one newspaper there which has no other work but that of vilifying a certain class of people, is that a reason why the

3-15 p.m.

24th March 1922] [Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu]

freedom of the press should be curtailed? I can quote many other instances. That seems to be a very exceptional and an unfortunate case. I say I shall be very glad to investigate the case and do the needful."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I am very glad, Sir, that these older gentlemen who are not only old in age but also old in the service drawing fat pay should be replaced by younger gentlemen. That has been given effect to by the hon. the Minister by providing for six younger men from the deputy collector's cadre. So far good. Still he could have made further attempts to reduce the number from 17. He says that he is going to do that still further. For that certainly we shall be very glad. Then so far as the question of honorary assistant registrars are concerned he says that there is a large number now and it is a matter for consideration whether that number may not be increased and whether they could not be asked also to organise and supervise the societies near about. After all the hon. the Minister says that the present scheme is only a temporary makeshift and that the matter is being experimented upon. He says that out of this, Government are going to evolve a new scheme. I welcome the suggestion and I hope that during such reorganization he will take note of all the defects pointed out above and try to remedy them. For these reasons, Sir, I beg leave to withdraw this motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 610.

The following motion was not made :—

Rao Bahadur K. GOPALAKRISHNAYYA :—

610. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,53,600 for salaries for co-operative credit by Rs. 50,000.*

Motion 611.

Mr. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI :—"Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

611. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,73,000 for travelling, house-rent and other allowances by Rs. 1,00,000.*

"In making this motion I wish to bring to the notice of the House that this department which is meant entirely for the benefit of the ryots has failed to achieve the end for which it was established in 1905. For the last two years honorary assistant registrars have been appointed. Even then any one reading the administration report of the co-operative department for last year will see that even according to their own admission—

'It is in possible for the ryot to enjoy the advantage of loans at low interest and also the system of "condoned unpunctuality" in repayment and easy renewal of the bond which are the main attractions offered by the local money-lender. The co-operative movement in fact cannot be thoroughly healthy unless its members become more businesslike than at present. The real remedy must lie in less laxity on the part of the central banks and primary societies, but it is clear to the Government that the influence of assistant registrars and their subordinates can also be made effective in this direction.'

"It is clear that things have not progressed to such an extent as was expected of the department. The number of these assistant registrars should have been increased and more assistant registrars should have been appointed with a permanent allowance or honorarium of Rs. 50 per mensem. They can easily do the work and make the people understand the value of the co-operative movement. I think that it would be far better if Government

[Mr. T. C. Tangavelu Pillai] [24th March 1922]

made up their mind to amalgamate this department with the registration department. One may say that the registration department has been doing a lot of useful work. They are now working the Indian Companies Act. The Act works on the same lines as the co-operative department. When the registration department can manage the Companies Act successfully it can also very easily work the co-operative department. You also see, Sir, that the salary of the assistant registrar is far more than any other official like the tahsildar and the sub-magistrate. The influence of the sub-registrar is so great that he could, in addition to other duties, take up the co-operative work and increase the number of co-operative societies and banks. With these words I submit this motion for the acceptance of the House."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I have already submitted that the department has just been started and is in the process of organization. The organization is not complete and it is, for the present, only intended for five years of which two years have already expired. I think my hon. Friend will certainly see the necessity of waiting for three years more and seeing what lesson it teaches us. I have already pointed out that we have 65 honorary assistant registrars. Under his scheme of sub-registrars to do the work, each of them would have to attend to 30 to 40 distant societies and I do not think it is possible for the registration department to manage as many societies as that. They have got their own work to attend to and this addition will mean an increase in the number of sub-registrars, and so on and so forth. So, Sir, my hon. Friend here will see that this is a matter in which the interests of the ryot are involved. My friend is aware of the great difficulties which the ryots have in securing loans cheap. As a friend of the ryot, and I know he is a friend of the ryot, he will see to their necessity and see that this work is carried on and the results awaited. Any criticism from friends will always be welcome and I should certainly urge upon him to watch the present work for three more years."

MR. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI:—"I think from the hon. the Minister's statement that we have got to wait for another three years because the scheme has been just launched. I see that the United Provinces Government has been much bolder in revising its policy. I do not see why the Madras Government should not embark upon the same policy and see that the department is placed on a sound footing to do good to the people."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 612.

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I beg to make the following motion:—

612. *To omit the allowance of Rs. 23,952 provided for allowances.*

"I think it is not necessary for us to go at length into this question. The details are here. This sum of 23,952 is made up of: duty allowance 17 (100), local allowance 2 (25), 1 (20), 1 (10), 1 (6), duty allowance 16 (10), conveyance allowance 1 (5), 1 (10) and duty allowance (10) to typist, shorthand allowance (25) to a clerk in the Registrar's office. These are the allowances, Sir, that are provided for. With regard to these allowances, the House has already taken a definite attitude. I would invite the attention of the House to the decisions with respect to other departments. I might say

24th March 1922] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

that there is no more onerous duty attached to these offices than to those the duty allowance to which were disallowed by the House and so there is no necessity for these allowances. So, I make this motion."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"Sir, I know the House has accepted the principle of this motion, so far as other departments are concerned. So far as this motion is concerned I am sure I shall be able to induce the hon. Mover to withdraw the motion for the following reasons. As my hon. Friend himself has pointed out it involves other allowances such as Wynaad and other local allowances. Secondly there is this trouble. We have entertained in the services, deputy collectors who were lent by the Revenue department. I admit that there is reason to urge that there is no necessity to pay them this allowance. But so far as the new incumbents are concerned we have not been paying them any allowance. If my hon. Friend will leave the matter to me I will see how best we can manage this affair. I hope my friend will see the practical difficulty and withdraw the resolution."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—"In view of the assurance given by the hon. the Minister that he will deal with these people in the same way as the other officers whose duty allowance has been disallowed by the House I have no objection to withdraw my motion."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"I will see what I can do. If the Government is doing away with the duty allowance in the case of the other officers I will also do the same in the case of these assistant registrars."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 613 and 614.

The following motions were not made :—

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—

613. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 23,952 for allowances by Rs. 20,400.*

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—

614. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 6,94,459 for co-operative credit by Rs. 70,000.*

Motion 615.

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"I beg to make the following motion :—

615. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 6.81 lakhs for co-operative societies by Rs. 50,000.*

"I wish to impress upon the attention of this House that we have been embarking upon an increase in the expenditure year after year even above the original intention when this department was brought into existence. When the committee on co-operation in India inquired into the whole matter it was contemplated that after so many years of working the management of the various societies must be left to the hands of the various non-official agencies and Government should withdraw their control from the societies. These societies came into existence more than fifteen years ago and we have been feeling the useful work done by these societies. As has been pointed

[Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu] [24th March 1922]

out by my hon. Friend Mr. Narasimbacharu there have been cases of abuses of powers which have been coming to notice now and then. But we cannot condemn the system on account of some instances of such abuses of powers.

“But I would ask whether it is necessary to increase expenditure under this head in a way in which we have been doing in the face of 3-20 P.M. the accepted policy that as early as possible Government control should be withdrawn from the management of the societies and they must be managed by non-official agency. My hon. Friend, the Minister for Development, has told us that the new scheme has come into operation very recently, that it has been in existence for two years, and that we must try its working for another three years. I should have been glad if he had been in a position to make some more positive statements as to what is going to happen at the end of three years and if it had at least been definitely settled that, after the period of three years is over, the original policy of placing these bodies in non-official hands will be re-embarked upon and that the expenditure we are now called upon to incur is a temporary one and for a definite period of three years. If some such assurance can be given, we will be in a much better position to appreciate the reasonableness of the demand made. My fear is that when once we start upon any scheme though we say it is temporary, it is very difficult to go back and to reduce the expenditure. It is that fear in my mind that has prompted me to place this motion before the House. If, on the other hand, we are definitely assured that it will be in existence for three years and three years alone and it is an accepted policy to withdraw Government control after a certain period, we will be in a position to vote for the grant. If my hon. Friend cannot give us a satisfactory reply, then I think it will be necessary to press this motion to a division. Fifty thousand rupees out of 6.81 lakhs of rupees is not much. Even if we do this in a business proposition, it is quite possible and practicable to reduce it to that extent. Let us remember that this Rs. 50,000 is the amount provided in excess of the amount noted in the revised estimate, and even if we deduct this Rs. 50,000, we will be sanctioning the same amount as we provided for the current year.”

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—“Sir, I am asked to state definitely what will happen at the end of three years. Let me say, Sir, that I do not pretend to prophesy what is going to happen three years hence. In the first place, it is not right that I should in any way tie down my successor. If I am guaranteed in this place for three years more—I do not know whether he will venture to guarantee that—I submit that it may be possible for me to say something definite. But I think there are some indications, Sir, such indications as can be given by a Government, so far as the conduct of the future Governments is concerned. In G.O. No. 135, dated 20th June 1920, when this reorganization scheme was sanctioned, the Government said that ‘they trust that before the expiry of five years for which period the present additions to staff are temporarily sanctioned, co-operators will have devised means whereby the Government will be relieved of the cost of audit either in whole or at any rate as to a substantial part thereof.’

“There is a sufficient indication in the Government Order, Sir, that after five years they would try their best to see to it that a reduction in this expenditure is made. I would submit one thing: in a matter like this anything like a definite assurance is impossible. But so far as it is possible and reasonable for the Government to give an assurance, I assure my hon. Friend of this,

24th March 1922] [Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu]

namely, that if I should happen to be in power or in this House, I will certainly raise my voice to see, after the societies have gone ahead and have been sufficiently placed on a stable basis, that the time has come when a reduction ought to be seriously considered—if not the whole reduction at once, at least a reduction in particular areas—and I will see that a beginning is made that the work is carried on partly by non-official agency. Of course we are accustomed, at any rate the reform scheme has accustomed us, to try these things stage by stage. I should think, Sir, that if things go on as well as they are going on at present, he who is in charge of this office will certainly be well advised to try to commence a reduction in the official control over these societies. In civilized countries co-operative societies, at least in the developed state, are left to private agency. All that I can submit is that it is the policy of the Government also that they should be left to private agency in the fullness of time. It is not desired that any Government money should be spent for all time to come. It is intended to start societies, to place them on a stable basis and then leave them to the control of the private agency.

“My hon. Friend says that so far as the number of societies is concerned, it is in no way proportionate to the number of people or the agricultural indebtedness of the people in this land. As a student of politics and statistics, Mr. Krishna Rao knows the enormity of the indebtedness of the ryot. In order, therefore, that facilities may be afforded to the debtors in the country and seeing that something more remains to be done, I think the present agency must continue for these three years at least. If after three years' good work is done in this direction, nothing will please me more than to see that they are handed over, as far as possible, to private agency, stage by stage.”

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU:—“I cannot expect my hon. Friend to give a more positive assurance than that he has given in the circumstances in which he is placed. But may I point out even before I make up my mind to withdraw the motion that he may very well consider to withdraw the official agency if within these three years in the particular circumstances of any particular area, he is satisfied that he can appoint an honorary assistant registrar in that area? I think he can try the experiment before the expiry of the three years and start the non-official agencies gradually. I cannot expect this change to be done all at once. I do not expect that simply because three years expire on the 31st March of a year, the official agency will at once be withdrawn on the 1st of April of that year. If the policy is accepted, we need not confine ourselves to the statement of the Government Order and if, within the course of the next year, he is satisfied that in any particular area he can withdraw the official agency he can do so and appoint an honorary assistant registrar to take up the work. It will be well to make a beginning even before the expiry of the three years. To that extent the hon. the Minister can give an assurance. If he is prepared to give us that assurance, I have no objection to withdraw the motion.”

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU:—“I shall certainly consider that.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

[24th March 1922]

DEMAND XXII—CINCHONA.

The hon. Sir LIONEL DAVIDSON :—" I beg to move, Sir, for a grant not exceeding 4.29 lakhs under Demand XXII—Cinchona."

Motion 616.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

616. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,29,030 for cinchona plantations by Rs. 100.*

" I just want to say a few words on this motion. I must first of all say that I have to tender my thanks both to the Secretary and to the Under Secretary of the Development Department. They gave me very useful information in this connexion both orally and in writing. If at all I move this motion it is only to say a few words on the working of the whole department. The hon. the Home Member said the other day in dealing with this work that he was personally sorry that the Imperial Government did not take up this department. All I can say is that, so far as the planters are concerned, they are not at all sorry that this has not gone up to the Government of India. They will be glad that it is under this Government and that the hon. the Home Member will be in charge of this. One thing that I want to know is as to why this department should not be handed over to the Agricultural department; because after all, the officer in charge of this department is a deputy director of agriculture. He practically belongs to the Agricultural department. I think in the general statement also dealing with agriculture, it is stated ' a scheme for the development of the planting industries involving the establishment of four—to be raised ultimately to six—experimental stations, the appointment of a mycologist and the continued employment of the deputy director, planting districts, has been sanctioned for five years from 1st April 1919.' For the purpose of better carrying out the whole work, I think it will be better that the whole thing is under the Agricultural department, so that the whole development of the planting districts may come together.

" So far as the question of cinchona is concerned, it has become a swadeshi enterprise so far as the Southern India is concerned. In the Coimbatore and the Nilgiri districts, there are a number of planters who are doing this work. Unfortunately, now it so happens that a large quantity of bark is obtained from Java. I know that a reply will be given so far as the planters are concerned, namely ' they do not give the proper quality of cinchona; there is not the sufficient quantity of quinine; therefore we have necessarily to go out for this purpose.' What I would submit to the hon. the Home Member and to the department is whether they cannot take up the work of making this matter better known to the planters. There is a wrong impression in the minds of some of these planters that purposely Java bark is purchased, because the Government of India or their officers want to help Java planters and do not take cinchona bark from Southern India planters. It should be very well advertised as to what quantity of the bark can be purchased from them and of which quality and all that. It is only then that the planters will be able to grow the necessary trees. Now that rubber is suffering from an economic point of view and even tea and coffee are not yielding as much as before, the planters of Southern India and in and near Coimbatore district

24th March 1922] [Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar]

especially will be very glad to have an opportunity of knowing exactly if they can grow the proper tree, what the quality that is required is and all such information. So I request the hon. the Home Member to take some steps by which the people may exactly know as to what and how they should grow. I know the growing cannot be done in a year. It will take a lot of time; but still they want an opportunity. A chance may be given to them."

The hon. Sir LIONEL DAVIDSON :—" Sir, the hon. Mover has asked me, in the first instance, why the Cinchona Department should not be handed over to the Agricultural Department on the ground that it forms an integral part of that department. There is a very simple answer. Under statutory rules cinchona is a reserved subject and therefore it cannot be controlled by the head of the Agricultural Department or the Minister for Development. I might also add that it is rather a special topic, and one of the reasons which led to its not being classified under the general head 'Agricultural' is perhaps that until quite recently it seemed highly probable that all the cinchona factories and plantations in the Indian Empire would be placed under the administration of one officer. That was the provisional intention in 1918 and 1919. But two or three months ago, the Government of India came to the conclusion that it was much better to leave the development of cinchona in the hands of the Provincial Governments. There are, I think, only three Provincial Governments concerned—Bengal, Madras and Burma. That, however, is a matter of general policy which cannot be properly discussed here, and I do not propose to pursue the topic.

"My hon. Friend's next point is that cinchona planting is a 'great budding industry,' and that there are a number of planters, downcast by the depression of tea and rubber, who would be only too thankful to embark upon the profitable business of growing cinchona, if their ignorance were enlightened. I venture to think, Sir, that the hon. Mover has only recently come into contact with the question of cinchona plantation. It came to my notice more than 30 years ago, and even then the industry was in a decadent condition. I do not believe that it is at all necessary to enlighten the average planter in Southern India on the subject. The truth is that a great deal of money was spent on cinchona plantations many years ago. The vicissitudes of prices taught planters by experience that it was not as a rule a profitable venture, and they steadily came to the conclusion that it was best to cut their losses and get out. In fact most of the bark which has been supplied to our Cinchona Department by private enterprise of late years has come from the harvesting of trees which are cut down while a cinchona estate is being deliberately wiped out. The planters came to the conclusion that it was no use of pursuing that form of cultivation. If any particular firm or planter wants any information, I think they or he can always rely on getting it from Mr. Wilson, the Deputy Director of Cinchona. In a letter which he wrote in consequence of enquiries made by the hon. Mover, he mentioned specifically that he was in very close touch with nearly all the large growers of cinchona in Southern India, and in consequence had intimate knowledge, and added that he had actually had to relinquish a large portion of his allotment for the purchase of bark simply because private growers could not continue to supply it. The Cinchona Department would be only too glad to get larger supplies from private plantations, if they were forthcoming. Our great difficulty in the future is the prospect that because private enterprise will not do anything in this direction, we shall probably have to

[Sir Lionel Davidson]

[24th March 1922]

face the very difficult problem of taking up fresh land and starting new cinchona plantations at the cost of Government."

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I am very thankful to the hon. the Home Member for the information furnished by him. I know that under the statutory rules, the Cinchona Department is a reserved one; but these rules can be changed. If this Government should recommend to the Government of India and the Secretary of State, I am sure the rules can be changed. I know certain firms dealing in cinchona do not at all know the real state of affairs in regard to this industry. I know correspondence has been going among some respectable firms in regard to this matter. Because the planters have realized that certain industries like rubber are not yielding good profits, they are willing to take to this cinchona industry. It is not that there is no cinchona bark, but the fact is that unfortunately the Government did not require them. However, as the hon. the Home Member has already given me an assurance, and the department is helping in all possible directions, I do not press this motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The question that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 4.29 lakhs under Demand XXII—Cinchona was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XXIII—INDUSTRIES (including Fisheries and Weights and Measures).

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"Sir, I beg to move that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 16.50 lakhs under Demand XXIII—Industries (including Fisheries and Weights and measures)."

Motion 617.

The following motion was not made :—

MR. M. C. RAJA :—

617. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 24,386 for 'Other schemes.'*

Motion 618.

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—"Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

618. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,22,991 under Contingencies by Re. 1.*

"Sir, in page 187 of the budget a number of items have been provided. Lump sum for West Coast station and Cannery including Fishery education—Rs. 67,800; other schemes—Rs. 24,386; other contingencies—Rs. 5,000; provision (half grant) for construction of a school and temperance hall for Mogear fishermen of Udipi taluk—Rs. 3,693. These are some of the items, but no details are given. Further, I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that in South Kanara district there is not a sufficient number of fish-curing yards. Some taluks in South Kanara contain only one or two fish-curing yards situated at long distances, which give no facility to the fishermen living in the intervening villages to cure their fish in those yards. I wish more fish-curing yards be opened."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"Sir, the details required by my hon. Friend Mr. Rama Rao are too many, but I shall be very glad to give them to my hon. Friend privately."

24th March 1922]

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ I only want an assurance that these sums are required for purely educational purposes.”

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—“ Sir, it is my desire to increase the number of fish-curing yards. My hon. Friend will please remember that there is another factor to be reckoned and that is the Salt Department which represents the Government of India. Certain salt concessions were given to these fish-curers and unless we obtain sanction from the Salt Department, it is not possible to open any new works. Anyway I shall try my best to induce them to open as many fish-curing yards as possible. In fact, a scheme is now before us for the construction of fish-curing yards and in that connexion we can also raise the question of increasing the number.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 619.

The following motion was not made :—

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—

619. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,54,000 for fishery bureau by Rs. 1,000.*

Motion 620.

Mr. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI :—“ Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

620. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 10,350 for one Deputy Director.*

“ In making this motion it is my intention to point out to the House that this department should be manned by persons who are experienced industrialists. This department itself was started by Sir Alfred Chatterton and now we have a great administrative officer in the person of my hon. Friend Mr. Cotton as the Director of Industries. I want to know that when the Deputy Director goes on 8 months' leave whether his place will be filled up by a man in the same cadre or whether it is intended to bring an experienced industrialist for that place.”

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—“ Sir, that question has not yet been decided, but if my hon. Friend wants that an Indian should be appointed, then certainly the qualifications of those who are available will be considered in filling up the vacancy.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 621 to 630.

The following motions were not made :—

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—

621. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 7,200 for officer on special duty.*

622. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,08,250 for Director of Industries by Rs. 1000.*

623. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,400 for salaries of Madura Technical Institute by Rs. 100.*

624. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,700 for the Madras Technical Institute by Rs. 100.*

[24th March 1922]

Mr. R. T. KESAVULU PILLAI :—

625. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,15,700 for the Madras Technical Institute.*

Mr. M. C. Raja :—

626. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 50,000 for 'other miscellaneous experiments.'*

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—

627. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,18,321 for industries by Rs. 100.*

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—

628. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,18,321 for industries by Rs. 5 lakhs.*

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—

629. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,02,000 for expenditure in England by Rs. 100.*

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—

630. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 16.50 lakhs for industries by Rs. 100.*

Motion 631.

Mr. M. SURYANARAYANA PANTULU :—“Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

631. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 16.50 lakhs for industries by Rs. 100.*

“Sir, I make this motion for the purpose of drawing the pointed attention of the hon. the Minister for Development to the fact that in the Madras Exhibition of Indian Arts and Industries, the Department of Agriculture had put in certain exhibits in which it has been scientifically proved that ‘cholam’ can replace ‘barley’ in the preparation of malted foods. Subsequent to that period the Agricultural Department seems to have issued some bulletins.

“I find that it has been scientifically proved that cholam can replace barley not only in the preparation of what we call ‘Horlick’s malted milk’ or ‘Kepler’s malted extract’ but also in regard to other matters, such as ‘Mellin’s food’ and so forth. We find that all these products are being imported from England or America in very large quantities. But it is certainly wrong that we should allow this manufacture not to be proved commercially profitable in India. With this object I ask the Director of Industries for information as to what has been done since the publication of these agricultural bulletins to prove that ‘cholam’ can be used on a commercially profitable basis. All that I heard from the Director of Industries was a reference to the publication of the Agricultural Department of the Government of India in which it is stated that scientifically it is possible to replace barley by cholam. Nothing else has been done. I submit that we

24th March 1922] [Mr. M. Suryanarayana Pantulu]

are spending as much as 16 lakhs over the industrial department and the question as to whether this product, namely, 'cholan' can be made commercially successful ought to be taken up by this department and preference should be given to this subject. When I see that nothing has been done for over six years, I suspect that it may probably be due to some caveat or some objection raised by some British manufacturer or foreign manufacturer that it interferes seriously with their manufacture.

4 p.m.

"And my doubt has been confirmed when I find in the 'Further Selection of Papers relating to Forest Exploitation' on page 8, the following :—

'Our activities in this undertaking have aroused the interest of the British bobbin-makers. Protests have been made to the Secretary of State for India against them but naturally the British trade cannot in this matter be permitted to impose their will on India.'

"I think it very probable that there was some protest made by the British manufacturers to the Secretary of State for India, and that is the reason why this matter has not been taken up by the department. I hope and trust that no such objection has been made by the Secretary of State. Even if such is the case, I hope the Department of Industries will do its best to show that it is possible to prepare malted food on a commercial scale from *cholan*. It is to draw the attention of the department that I have tabled this motion."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"I do not want to trouble this House with quotations from the literature on the subject. There is a small booklet on the exhibits of food and industrial products shown at the Madras Industrial Exhibition, 1917, prepared by Mr. Ramaswami Sivan, then Assistant Agricultural Chemist, now in the Indian Agricultural Service. The Chemist has no doubt analysed the articles and has found out that it is possible to make malt here. I have made enquiries since the notice of this motion was given and the following summary of the results obtained has been furnished to me :—'*Cholan* is better suited for malting purposes than the other common South Indian cereals experimented with; *cholan* malt extract hydrolyses soluble starch at a greater rate than barley malt extract; in the case of hydrolysis of starch by *cholan* starch the proportion of dextrine to sugar produced is greater than in the case of barley malt compared under identical conditions; the products of starch hydrolysis by *cholan* malt consist, as with barley malt, largely of maltose and dextrine.' The above summary shows the exceedingly technical nature of the work. So far as the Chemist is concerned he has done his work. The question has passed from the stage of laboratory experimenting. Now it must be worked on a commercial basis. I shall be glad to consider the question of starting a pioneer factory which is uppermost in the mind of my hon. Friend. If this is to be done I shall have to come to this House for a supplementary grant. On the other hand if it is his intention that this department should assist any private individual or a private agency which is prepared to take up this industry, I can certainly give him the assurance that the services of the department will be at the disposal of the gentleman or company prepared to undertake such an enterprise. If it is asked whether it would be profitable to manufacture it and place it in the market so that those who intend taking up the enterprise may benefit, I shall certainly be pleased to make further enquiries and investigations."

[24th March 1922]

Mr. M. SURYANARAYANA PANTULU :—“ All that I wanted is that it should be demonstrated by the Industrial Department as to whether it can be made a commercial success, by starting a factory something like the Chrome Leather Factory, the Aluminium Factory and so forth. It should be made plain that it can be made a commercial success. If that is done I shall be satisfied. On the assurance of the hon. the Minister for Development I withdraw the motion.”

Mr. C. W. E. COTTON :—“ I hope I may be permitted to reply to a statement of Mr. Tangavelu Pillai. He seems to be under the impression that the present Deputy Director of Industries is not an industrialist. Before he came to the Department of Industries he was in a firm in Bombay. I wish to remove the impression created by the remarks of Mr. Tangavelu Pillai.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The allotment of Rs. 16.50 lakhs under Demand XXIII—Industries was then put to the House and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXIV—LABOUR AND ALLIED DEPARTMENTS.

The hon. Mr. K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ Mr. President, I move for a grant not exceeding 7.87 lakhs for Labour and allied departments. The departments concerned are: Inspector of Factories, Steam-boiler Inspector Establishment, Registration of Traffic, Commissioner for Labour and Industrial Settlements.”

Motions 632 and 633.

The following motions were not made :—

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—

632. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 9,480 for Chief Inspector of Factories.*

Rao Bahadur K. GOPALAKRISHNAYYA :—

633. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 9,480 for Chief Inspector of Factories.*

Motion 634.

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

634. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 15,000 for staff of inspector of factories.*

“ It is only in this Presidency that the inspector of factories is different from the inspector of steam boilers. In Bombay, Central Provinces, United Provinces and Burma both the offices are combined and are held by one officer. Here we have two different officers for doing the same work. The work of the inspector of factories is to find out whether the sanitary arrangements and the health of the operatives are alright, whereas the steam boiler inspector's business is to find out whether the machinery is in working order. So by amalgamating these two offices we can have a saving of Rs. 50,000. There is no reason why we must have two sets of officers when practically the same qualifications are fixed by the Industrial Commission, and when the business of both is to examine the same localities and to discharge similar functions. The only thing that can be said in favour of the present system is that one set of officers have to examine the machinery and to see whether

24th March 1922]

[Mr. U. Rama Rao]

the machines are in working order, that is, to examine them when the machinery is still and not working, and the other set of officers have to go when the machines are working and see whether the conditions of labour are good. But the same officer can examine on a week day whether those conditions are good and on a holiday whether the machine is in working order. Under these circumstances I do not see any reason why there should be two sets of officers for the same purpose. Moreover both the officers have to travel from one end of the Presidency to the other and visit the same places. This involves a large amount of money in the shape of travelling allowances, and this can be saved if the same officer is asked to look after both the duties. Therefore I beg to make the motion for reduction."

The hon. Mr. K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"Mr. President, there has been a good deal of misconception in the speech of my hon. Friend as to the duties of the inspector of factories and the steam-boiler inspector. There is a fundamental mistake made by the hon. Member when he imagined that if there is an amalgamation of the inspecting staff in these cases there will be a saving in the number of officers who are employed. There won't be any saving. There may be a saving with regard to the chief inspector of factories. What the hon. Member forgets is in this province the chief inspector of factories is in direct charge of one of the circles like any other inspector. This question of amalgamation was very carefully considered in 1919 and the Government then came to the conclusion that amalgamation was not desirable after a very anxious enquiry. They came to this conclusion because the qualification required for the factory inspector is different from that of the steam-boiler inspector. In the case of the steam-boiler inspector he has to conduct his inspection when the machinery is not working ; in the case of the factory inspector he will have to inspect when the machinery is moving. I shall read the conclusion to which the Government came—G.O. No. 471, Home (Judicial), dated 27th February 1919 :—

"The Government have given their consideration to the proposals . . . for the reorganization and strengthening of the factory inspection staff in this Presidency and they have arrived at the following conclusions: (i) that the Public Works Department cannot be indented on for the supply of factory inspectors; (ii) that the amalgamation of the factory and the boiler inspection staffs would be radically unsound, because of the difference in the qualifications required and the impracticability of combining the duties . . ."

"The question was again recently considered and we had to come to the same conclusions. All that I need now say is that the kind of qualifications required for the inspector of factories and the steam-boiler inspector are different. As regards the qualification of the factory inspectors, a liberal education is required first ; more especially after the Union Acts are passed the factory inspectors would have a great deal of work to do in connexion with the investigation of causes of disputes in the workshop between the management and the employees, I at least expect it. They should have also a theoretical training in engineering and a thorough practical training in mechanical engineering. They should also possess a general knowledge of the principles of sanitation. They must have also some practical experience of factory work either in India or Europe. They must have also ability to converse with the factory operatives, in their own language. As regards the qualification of the boiler inspector he must have a first class Board of Trade certificate ; he must be able to know all about the mechanism of the steam-boiler with an experience of land as well as marine boilers. Then so far as the duties are concerned the duties of the inspector of factories are laid down

[Mr. K. Srinivasa Ayyangar]

[24th March 1922]

by statute. In the case of factories working all through the year he must visit each factory at least once a year, and in the case of seasonal factories at least once in the season. He will have to see whether the health of the operatives is cared for and the conditions of the Act under which women and children could be engaged in those factories are fulfilled. So far as the boiler inspector is concerned all that he has to do is to examine whether there is the licence for the boilers, whether the boilers are in good condition, and if the conditions of licence are not satisfied he can cancel the licence. As regards the amalgamation of the two staffs the experiment was made in Bombay in 1920. This is the result of that experiment.

4-15 p.m.

“I am reading an extract from a letter from the Collector of Bombay as regards the result of this amalgamation—

‘The feature of the year (1920) was the amalgamation of the Factory Department with the departments of Boiler and Smoke Nuisances. This came into active operation in the latter part of the year. It has not evinced any prospects of success. The joint staff entrusted with triple duties is not sufficient for paying surprise visits to every factory while under working conditions, particularly in the mufassal. In practice, in Bombay and Ahmedabad, boiler and factory duties have respectively to be allotted to different inspectors as before. The supervision of boiler inspection needs the sole attention of one chief inspector and the same is the case with factory inspection. Factory matters are becoming of much greater importance owing to the development of industry and the legislation and the administrative changes consequent on the Washington Conference. The present difficulties will be much enhanced when the present Act is intended to include a larger number of factories.’

“The new Act will come into operation in July 1922. It must be remembered that under the new Act you may require inspection even with regard to establishments which employ more than ten persons though there is no mechanical power. Boiler inspection and factory inspection require, in my opinion, different types of inspector, and each must be a specialist.

“I therefore submit to the House that there is not likely to be any material advantage in the shape of less expenditure by amalgamating the two departments, and you certainly are not going to make any profit out of that. The 15,000 rupees is intended for additional inspectors whom you are bound to appoint after the Factory Act comes into force and because by reason of the new Act a much larger number of factories will have to be inspected. That is the reason for putting this 15,000 rupees, which is not for the present ordinary establishment. If you reduce the 15,000 you cannot have the additional inspection which you are bound to make under the Statute.”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO ;—“I do not press it.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 635.

MR. O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR :—“Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

635. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 61,850 for inspector of factories by Rs. 40,000.*

“Sir, I have had the advantage of listening to the hon. Member for Law and Labour in support of the present system. Sir, I have thought that the argument for the separation of the two sets of work, namely, inspection of factories and inspection of steam boilers is that it has to be done at different times, because for one the engine must be cool and for the other the engine must be hot. I find that as the reason given by the hon. the Finance

24th March 1922] [Mr. O. Tanikachala Chettiyar]

Member in his Financial Statement, considering the strong feeling entertained by the several members when this subject was discussed at one of the Finance Committee meetings. That has been the reason for the duplication of the machinery and adding to the cost of the tax-payer. Though I have listened carefully to the reasoning of the Madras Government through the hon. the Law Member, I have not yet heard from him anything why the recommendation of such an influential, important and costly commission as the Indian Industrial Commission should have been brushed aside and the opinion of the Local Government alone be taken. Sir, I have before me the recommendation of the Indian Industrial Commission in which they say in paragraph 358.

‘We have also proposed that the staff employed for the administration of the Electricity, Factories and Boilers’ Acts should be transferred to the Departments of Industries, and only in the case of the Electrical Inspectors, for reasons given in Chapter XV, do we propose any additional expenditure.’

‘This was the opinion of an influential committee, a committee which knew what it was about, and made the recommendation that the two departments should be transferred to and be under one department, namely, the Department of Industries. No doubt, as against this, apparently, in view of the dissatisfaction expressed from time to time, a reference appears to have been made to the Collector of Bombay. The opinion of the Collector of Bombay is sought to be placed against this recommendation. If it was the considered opinion of the Government of Bombay which probably have reversed what they have done previously, it should be entitled to consideration. It might be that the Collector of Bombay like various officials in this presidency was very anxious that there should be as many appointments as possible. That is no reason why, when we are complaining that our financial burdens are heavy, we should not effect economy wherever possible.’

‘Sir, it was said that this qualification of people who inspect the factories when the boiler is hot is something of a liberal education and those who inspect when the boiler is cool should have a licence from the Board of Trade. In the answer given to an interpellation by Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar in the beginning of this week as to the qualifications of the various inspectors employed both in the boiler inspection and the Factories departments I fail to see any one who possesses the requisite qualification which has been claimed for them. But so far as I can see, they are all Matriculates with very little of technical qualification, such a high qualification as the Industrial Commission recommended. For instance, at page 193, they say—

‘The industrial engineers who would be required in the provincial departments would be concerned mostly in the erection of small power plants and in advising on the erection of machinery in factories; specialist knowledge, where needed, would be provided, as a rule by seconding special men from the cadre of the Industrial service or by temporary appointments. They must be good all-round men with a wide range of practical experience. Men of the class required should be recruited in the first instance as explained by us in the next chapter, but they will need training and practical experience before they are fit to be placed on responsible work. As we pointed out there, the engineer staff should form the basis from which our proposed Industrial service will be built up, and for exceptionally qualified men there would be prospects of rising to administrative rank.’

‘So, I pointed out that engineering knowledge should be possessed as the basic qualification for Inspectors, whether they inspect the boilers or whether they inspect the factories. In fact, what do they do? One attends to see if the machine and parts are all right; that is the boiler inspector. The other inspector comes and sees whether the men employed there are getting proper comforts and their requirements are being attended to. I was somewhat surprised at the statement from the hon. the Member for Government

[Mr. O. Tanikachala Chettiyar] [24th March 1922]

that they are also making inquiries as to disputes, if any, between the employers and the employed. I thought it was in the special province of the Commissioner of Labour, but has this power been delegated to the Inspector of Factories? I was not aware of that. If we have done this amalgamation which has been recommended by so high an authority as the Industrial Commission, we shall be able to save a lot of travelling allowances, which will be incurred by two sets of officers going about on inspection in different capacities.

"In the Inspector of Factories department, where the salaries of the Chief Inspector and the two inspectors amount to Rs. 20,520, the travelling allowance is Rs. 13,000. Again, in the Steam Boiler inspection establishment where the Chief Inspector and the three inspectors altogether draw Rs. 33,000 their travelling allowance is another Rs. 20,600, so that one great achievement we shall make by amalgamating the two would be that we shall save the travelling expenses of two sets of officers going about from time to time. Apart from that, as has been pointed out by the Industrial Commission, there are great advantages in one set of officers being employed on the same duty, for there will be absence of conflict in the instructions which will be given to the proprietors of factories, one set of instructions being given by the Factory Inspector and another set by the Steam-Boiler Inspector. After all, they have to do with the same persons. It may be each one has to look at things from his own point of view and between the two there may be conflict.

"Sir, I find, also, in the Steam-Boiler Inspection establishment there were only five superior officers last year, the chief inspector, the second inspector and third inspectors. It is proposed to add to that number by one more, and while that staff is strengthened by additional one this inspector of factories staff is also said to be strengthened at an additional cost of Rs. 15,000, where already the inspectors, with their 20,000 and 13,000 rupees draw in all 33,000. Sir, it may be as pointed out by the Collector of Bombay, which however has not been approved by the Government of Bombay, in a place like Bombay which is such a large industrial presidency, where there are ever so many mills and factories, compared with Madras, there is sufficient work to justify one set of officers with one kind of work and another set of officers with another kind of work. But in a small place, from the industrial point of view, like the Madras Presidency, it is altogether objectionable and not admissible. Moreover, very large sums are spent in travelling because the Madras Presidency is such a wide area, whereas the Bombay Presidency is a very much more compact area, and therefore the amount of travelling allowance will be very high. So, under these circumstances, I appeal to the House to support the motion for reduction by Rs. 40,000, so that the two offices may be combined and a lot of travelling allowances which could be saved might be saved, and also the duplication of the staff, not merely of the Chief Inspector of Factories and the Chief Inspector of Steam Boilers, but that the clerical establishments also might be reduced. With this view I commend this proposition to the acceptance of the House."

Mr. C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I support the motion, and I endorse all the statements made by my friend Mr. Tanikachala Chettiyar. I think, Sir, in running these two establishments, there is overlapping of duties. In Bombay and other parts there is only one establishment, and I learn also that there is a scheme submitted by one of the officers that these two departments should be amalgamated, and by such amalgamation we would save over Rs. 40,000."

24th March 1922]

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—“I do not know who the last speaker referred to is. He talked about a scheme submitted by one of the officers for amalgamation. I may say that I did my best to carry out that amalgamation in 1915. I pressed this in view of the economy with all the power at my command, but I was quite satisfied that it was a business proposition in which we should have nothing to do. Now Mr. Tanikachala Chettiyar has referred to the report of the Royal Commission, and he was inclined to say that such reports are *sacro sanct*.”

Mr. O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR :—“I may claim very great credit for the gentlemen who made the investigation and upon whom some lakhs of Indian money have been spent.”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—“I hope he will allow equal credit to the report of the Public Service Commission which came to the conclusion that no advantage could be derived from this amalgamation. So, for his commission on the one side I have another commission on the other.”

Mr. O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR :—“May I point out that the Industrial Commission's report was made in the year 1918 whereas the Public Service Commission's report is a much earlier document and moreover the Industrial Commission sat much longer.”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—“Again, Sir, I am not quite sure that the Industrial Commission did propose to make one class of men do both classes of work. What they proposed was to put the two sets of inspectors into one service. I also proposed some years ago to put them into one service and I was satisfied after full enquiry that there is nothing to be gained from a business point of view by such an amalgamation. The fact is that the duties of the two sets of officers are quite different. One set have to inspect when the engines are stripped and they are men in whom a good knowledge of engineering is required. I put it to hon. Gentlemen in this House that when business people bring out new types, say, of multiple tube boilers, it is desirable that they should have some expert who can help them, if necessary, to set them up. The boiler inspector, is a man who is required to know all about the boilers in the factory. The factory inspector is required to be sympathetic in looking after the welfare of the children and so forth. This officer has got to go to the factory when it is actually working to see whether there are proper precautions taken for protection and for sanitation. It must be clear that both these duties cannot be done at one and the same visit, and consequently there is no gain in amalgamating the two services.

“Then it is said that amalgamation would result in a great saving under travelling allowance. I do not see how this is possible because the two inspections cannot be carried out on the same day. If the two inspections have to be carried out on different days, how should we be any better off by sending officer A twice than by sending officer A the first time and officer B the second? Supposing you have a factory at a very distant place like Kulasekharapatnam, you have to send your boiler inspector down there to look after the boiler, possibly to give some instructions for alterations to be made in relation to it. He goes when the boiler is not working, possibly in the off season. Is he to wait there until such time as the factory commences to work again in order to inspect the arrangements made for the welfare of the children? Otherwise, where is the advantage unless he can do the two inspections simultaneously? Is the amalgamation a business proposition? That is really the only question. I quite realize that it looks as if there was

[Sir Charles Todhunter]

[24th March 1922]

some saving in it. At one time I thought there was a saving in it myself. I did my best to get that saving. I have satisfied myself that there was no means of effecting a saving unless we restrict our inspections which, under the law, we cannot do."

Mr. A. M. MACDOUGALL :—"Mr. President, I did not intend to take part in this discussion, but as there seems to be great misconception in the House as to the duties of boiler and factory inspectors, and as I have had some experience, I would like to give the House the benefit of that experience.

"The boiler inspection takes place at the most convenient time for the factory, frequently on a holiday. When the inspector calls, the boiler is cold and ready for him. He strips, gets into a boiler suit, and enters the boiler in order to test the plates, tubes, etc. The boiler is then tested under pressure and the inspector certifies the pressure the boiler can be worked to with safety.

"Under the Act, a steam boiler, no matter how small, must be inspected once a year and a certificate granted. If the owner of a steam motor car lived in the remotest part of the Presidency, it would be necessary for the inspector to go there and inspect the boiler of the car and license it even if there was no factory in the district. Otherwise the owner would not be allowed to use his car. This may seem ridiculous, but, it is a fact. The Madras Corporation own a steam lorry and it is necessary for them to have the boiler inspected every year. I myself have a very small boiler to run a vulcanising plant. It is so small as to be almost insignificant, yet it is necessary to inspect it once a year.

"Some years ago His Excellency the late Lord Minto visited a Native State in the Punjab, and in the course of the visit inspected the stud farm. He congratulated the superintendent on the well kept appearance of the stables, etc., as well as the condition and quality of the horses. The superintendent (who was a Scotchman) thanked His Excellency and expressed the hope that he would not be long before he paid another visit to the State. This was said in such a way as to cause His Excellency to inquire why he (the Superintendent) wanted him back again. 'Well' he said, as soon as the authorities knew Your Excellency was coming they bought all the whitewash in the Punjab and put it on the walls. There will be no more money spent till you come again and that is why I want you back.

"The application of that story to factory inspectors suggests that the essence of factory inspection is surprise visits. If the inspector advised the factory owner of his intended visit, the owner would see that the walls of his factory were whitewashed, the latrine flushed out, the moving belts guarded and children who should not be there sent away. It is often said and I believe with some truth that as the inspector comes in at the front door the children under age are sent out at the back door. The factory inspector to carry out his duties properly must see factories working under normal conditions in order to ascertain whether the conditions of the Act are being carried out properly. This cannot be done by one man combining the two duties as the essence of surprise would be eliminated by the boiler inspector's notice of inspection.

"It is possible to amalgamate the two departments under one Director as the qualifications for both are somewhat the same and one man could act in both capacities, but the duties ought to be separate and distinct in that the Boiler Inspector should not act in that capacity at the time he was doing

24th March 1922]

[Mr. A. M. MacDougall]

Factory Inspector's work. It would perhaps be better to place both departments under the Director of Industries instead of as at present under the Law Department, the former being more in touch with the special work. I therefore beg to oppose the motion before the House."

Rao Bahadur T. NAMBERUMAL CHETTI :—" Sir, one looks after the health of the animate and the other looks after the health of the inanimate object. The two offices cannot be combined in one."

Mr. A. SUBBARAYUDU :—" Sir, in supporting this motion I beg to say that what is at present going on is that the boiler inspector always sees that his inspection is at one end of the Madras Presidency on one day and the next day at the other end, so that he may get travelling allowance and also account for his time. There are possibilities of both kinds of work being done by the same person. If the boiler inspector or the factory inspector wants to have the work finished at one and the same time he could arrange the work in such a way that all the factories from Madras to Villupuram are inspected on days allotted to each factory. Starting from Madras on his way to Villupuram he can examine the factories and on his return he can examine the boilers. In this way he can arrange to distribute his inspection between his inward and outward journeys. What do we see now from the boiler inspector's report? He is always going on tours more for travelling allowance rather than for the actual work. So this arrangement of examining the factories on his inward journey and the boilers on his outward journey, I think would be enough. With these few words I support the resolution."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—" Mr. President, it has been said that factory inspectors are intended to look after the health of the children and the boiler inspector after the health of the machinery. I have to question whether in view of the statement given by Government in answer to the question of Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar in which I find that of the three people employed as factory inspectors only one person possesses qualification as a sanitary inspector, and the other two are pure mechanics, the latter are qualified to look after the welfare of the children. I do not see how the qualifications of the factory inspector differ very materially from those of the boiler inspector. If it is a fact that you want a different type of man for the factory inspector's post, then you want him either to be a man possessing the qualifications of a sanitary inspector or one who combines in himself both the qualifications of sanitary and a boiler inspector. What I find from the statement is that the two people who possess qualification in mechanical engineering are not sanitary inspectors and the one man possesses a certificate of sanitary inspector, but has no qualifications in mechanical engineering. That I think is the hard fact that ought to influence our decision.

"Then, I see a difference is made between visits and inspections. Further down at page 7 of the statement it has been said that the figures given there represent the number of visits made in each district and not the number of inspections carried out. I am not a technical man like my hon. Friend Mr. McDougall, but I take it that inspection means a detailed examination of the machinery and the boiler, and visits may probably mean casual visits. Now if two out of the three factory inspectors do not possess sanitary inspector's certificates and are merely mechanics and if you also make this distinction between visits and inspections I wonder why all these factory inspection posts could not be taken up by those men with mechanical qualifications during their visits to the factories. I think the kind of sanitary

[Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi]

[24th March 1922]

qualifications that a factory inspector should possess need not be of a very high order. Even educational inspectors are supposed to look into the sanitary conditions of the school and to see that sufficient air and light is provided there, and whether there are other conveniences. Under those circumstances we would be requiring one set of inspectors to look after the public health and the other for inspecting the efficiency of the school.

“However, on the facts as presented in this document, I do not see that we are pursuing a policy of differentiation, so far as the qualifications are concerned, between the two sets of officers and if there is no such differentiation, I do not see why they should not be amalgamated and why this factory inspection should not be done, if not on the same day on which the boiler inspection is made, on the previous or following day. It has been said that the factory inspector’s visits are surprise visits, but I am afraid we have found it to be otherwise.”

Mr. A. M. MACDOUGALL :—“The factory inspector I have in my mind always paid surprise visits.”

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—“In Madras perhaps he may be able to pay surprise visits, but his mufassal visits do not seem to be surprise visits.”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—“May I say that surprise visits are a regular feature of the work of the factory inspector, even surprise visits at night.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“May I say, Sir, that in the Bellary district, I found the gentlemen concerned waiting with a carriage for the boiler inspector to go to the place of inspection?” (Laughter.)

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—“I have nothing more to say, Sir, except that under our present financial condition, it would not be a wise measure to have two separate officers. With these few words, I support the motion.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“I should also like to say a few words in support of this motion. I have given notice of a motion to abolish the post of the Chief Inspector of Factories, but some doubt was raised as to whether the Chief Factory Inspector could be abolished or the boiler inspector. So, I thought that the best thing would be not to move my motion but wait for the other general motion being brought forward. It has been said that there are two inspectors, the factory inspector and the boiler inspector, and their qualifications have been very well defined by the hon. the Finance Member. The factory inspector has to possess sympathy and the boiler inspector must have knowledge of boiler, mechanism, etc. I do not know if there is anything to prohibit the boiler inspector who may get a licence of knowledge of boilers, from having sympathy, and if he is precluded by his licence from having sympathy.

“And then, the second thing I was noticing was that there appeared to be an impression in the minds of some hon. Members that a cool boiler and a hot boiler were as different from each other as a living man and a dead man. In most factories, there are two boilers—one cool and one hot—and under the Factory Act there is a rule that there must be one holiday every week for every factory. Therefore if the same officer has both functions combined in him, he can come on a Monday if it is a very big factory, whether with previous notice or without notice, it does not matter. If a man can go without notice for the factory inspection, he may as well go for the boiler inspection without notice, and there is no reason why he should give notice in the case of either inspection. As a rule there is a holiday for each

24th March 1922] [Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar]

factory. Supposing a man goes there and sits for three, four, five or six days, or as many days as may be necessary for factory inspection before a holiday comes when he may inspect the boiler which gets cooled after a few hours of non-working, and then he may again if necessary inspect the factory. The only qualification is that he must have sympathy, and his licence would not prohibit his exercising sympathy. So, if he has the licence and also the necessary sympathy, he may examine the factory and then on a holiday either in the middle or at the end of his factory inspection he may examine the boiler also. After all, I do not think the boiler inspection would take very long. He can get into the boiler and he will certainly come out after his inspection. Therefore so far as the combined inspection is concerned, I do not think there will be any difficulty.

“There is also another fact to be noticed, and it is that these factory inspectors and boiler inspectors are not single persons. I do not say that they are necessarily married, but they always have a number of subordinate inspectors. The rule is that they send some of their subordinates beforehand to see that everything is ready; and then they themselves come, examine, and sign the certificate. Probably the certificate is also prepared by the subordinates and he signs it. If there is one officer for both departments, he may as well send one subordinate for the boiler inspection and another for the factory inspection, and then have the certificates ready to be signed. Another fact has been forgotten, namely, it may be that in a place like Kulasekharapatnam, there is only one factory. But in many places there are a number of factories; one factory may be working and another may not be working. The inspector may go and examine the factories that are not working and immediately after that is done, he may go and inspect the other factory where work is going on. When the two branches of the departments are to be worked together, it may be that the number of subordinates may be same, but so far as the people on the top are concerned, there is absolutely no necessity for any duplication in supervision or duplication in travelling allowances, etc. I may also say that all factories have no boilers and these are much more in number than those that have got boilers, because there are a number of factories run by oil engines and a number of others (whose number is daily increasing) whose motive power is electricity. All these come under the Factories Act, but many of them will not come under the Boiler Act. If a person who has knowledge as well as sympathy is appointed as inspector of boilers and factories, then there may be no difficulty in his examining both factories and boilers and a good deal of money will be saved. It is in that view that I say that the money spent on one of these posts may very well be saved. I think we have too much of straw and it is better that we cut down some straw so that the bricks may be substantial. So, I strongly support the motion before the House.”

The hon. Mr. K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“Mr. President, I have not been able to find any statement or any recommendation made by the Industrial Commission to the effect that there should be an amalgamation or that the same set of officers should do the work. All that I find is a recommendation that they must be placed under the Industries Department and they must do the work under the Director of Industries. There is nothing said in the report so far as I can see as regards amalgamation. I asked my hon. Friend for a reference and he gave reference only to a passage at page 215 which does not deal with any amalgamation at all, but only deals with the person in whom control should be vested.”

[24th March 1922]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know the number of the paragraph, Sir ? ”

The hon. Mr. K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ It is paragraph 358 at page 215. If there is any other paragraph, I shall be very much obliged to the hon. Member if he would refer me to it. All that we can do is to transfer the administration of the Electricity, Factories and Boilers Acts to the Department of Industries ; whether the Local Government have the power I have not examined ; the Director is in the transferred department. On the other hand, the Public Services Commission who very carefully considered the amalgamation of these services in order that there might be a larger cadre to select from, came to the deliberate conclusion that that could not be done. The report says—

‘ As now arranged, each province or group of provinces ordinarily has its own staff for boiler inspection. Only in the Central Provinces and Berar this factory and boiler inspection work is done by the same officer, but in the United Provinces and the Punjab the inspectors are under the general supervision of the factories inspectors of those areas.’

“ That is important in view of the reduction now proposed, namely, Rs. 40,000. It is not a question of reducing the supervising staff or the amalgamation of the chief inspector of factories and the chief boiler inspector. But it is a question of reducing by Rs. 40,000 the amount which is budgeted for the inspector of factories ; with this knowledge, namely, that as soon as the new Factories Act comes into force, the number of factories which will have to be inspected will be nearly double than what we have now. I repeat again so that the House may be in a position to appreciate the motion now before the House, that the motion is to reduce the total grant for inspection of factories by Rs. 40,000, so that what is left is less than Rs. 20,000 which is the provision for extra inspection. Now, Sir, let me proceed with the quotation from the Public Services Commission's report—

‘ As in the case of the factory inspection departments, we have considered proposals for an all-India organization as well as suggestions for amalgamating everywhere the factory and the boiler staffs.’

“ That is for the purpose of having a larger cadre so that there may be an improvement in the position of the services—

‘ But we are of opinion that the existing arrangement is the right one and that the difficulties now being experienced will pass away as the cadres grow in size and importance. We are also satisfied that the present overlapping in the United Provinces, the Punjab and the Central Provinces and Berar is for the time-being unavoidable. But as those provinces develop industrially the organization prevailing in the other provinces should be adopted.’

“ That is the recommendation. It was pointed out by Mr. Tanikachala Chettiyar, I think, that Madras province is a province where you have got to travel very long distances. That would be a reason why we must have more inspecting staff. As a matter of fact, I find from the statistics that our inspectors do more inspection work than those either in Bombay or in Bengal. It is on that ground that the Chief Inspector of Factories wanted to have his pay raised to the pay which is given in Bengal and Bombay, which we have not given him yet owing to our financial position. Therefore the fact that the House desires to amalgamate the factories inspection with boiler inspection could not reduce the number of officers necessary for the purpose of making these inspections. If at all it is possible to reduce the expenditure, we can only reduce it by amalgamating both these under the same supervising head, that is instead of two chief inspectors, we may have one chief inspector. That question was very carefully considered both in 1919 and also later on in the beginning of this year and the Government have found that if they

24th March 1922] [Mr. K. Srinivasa Ayyangar]

wanted the Factories Act or the Boilers Act to work properly, they must have the necessary number of inspecting staff. We are not able to reduce either in the one or in the other. We want to increase the number of inspecting staff under the new Factories Act of 1922."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD HABIB-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—
 "Sir, as the staff dealing with the inspection of steam-boilers has also come in for discussion and as I am responsible for that staff, I think I should join in this debate and explain to the House the responsibility which these officials have, the quantity of work that they have got to turn out and how, as it is, they may be regarded as absolutely under-staffed. The House is fully aware, I assume, that the work of inspectors of whom I am speaking is conducted under the Steam-boilers and Prime-movers Act. The duty of inspecting boilers and prime-movers is cast upon the Government by legislation, and the Government cannot get rid of that obligation inasmuch as it is a statutory duty. This statute lays down that a party is entitled to claim inspection of his boiler within a specified period from the date of his application for a licence in respect of such boiler.

"And if the Government on whom is cast this statutory responsibility of having to inspect the boilers before the grant of a licence neglect to depute officers for the said inspection within a period, the owner of the boiler is at liberty to proceed regardless of the fact whether he possesses a licence or not. The various sections of this Act to which I would like to invite the attention of the House are particularly sections 5, 7, 10 and 13. These sections relate to boilers which are now in operation but in respect of which licence can be granted only for one year and which, under law, shall be renewed by the inspector of boilers only after inspection. Then there is a second class of boilers which are proposed to be installed for the first time and which cannot be installed in the absence of a licence from the inspector. In addition thereto, these inspectors are bound to respond to numerous calls from boiler-owners if their machinery has gone out of order. Fourthly, and perhaps the most important duty is that they are bound to pay surprise visits to these boilers to see whether all is well and the conditions of the licence are adhered to. These I would briefly submit are the principal duties cast by law on the boiler inspectors and which the Government cannot get away from.

"Now, is it imagined that all this work is done wholly out of the money collected from the tax-payer? That probably is a consideration which must have weighed considerably in the minds of hon. Members of this House in coming to the conclusion that as far as possible they should save money by retrenchment. With regard to that, I would at once say that we possess authority under the Act to collect a fee from individuals whose boilers we inspect. In fact we recover nearly a moiety of the cost by means of inspection fees. If the duties of these officers are amalgamated, the inevitable result would be lesser inspections, and consequent dereliction of duty cast on the shoulders of the Government under the statute and probably also the running of all boilers in a condition which should be deprecated as absolutely dangerous to human life—a duty again which Government cannot absolve themselves from. These in brief are the duties and responsibilities of the staff.

"Let me place before you a few statistics and ask whether this separate establishment of boiler inspectors has justified itself. I will merely place

[Mr. Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Sahib] [24th March 1922]

before you a brief analysis of the number of inspections that have been conducted by these officers which in the last year amounted to no less than 2,182. These 2,182 inspections are merely in respect of boilers owned by private individuals. But the officers of this department have also yet another responsibility : that responsibility being on behalf of the local bodies. They have to inspect boilers under the control of local bodies in respect of water-works or drainage schemes or a sewage farm and the like. To the long list of 2,182 inspections which have been conducted by these inspectors as mentioned already, you will permit me to add those of other descriptions which by themselves would demonstrate that the present number is absolutely insufficient. There were 84 thorough inspections of mufassal water-works and filters at Guindy, 66 visits to the several workshops in Madras in connexion with the repairs of the water-works plant, 7 boilers inspected in Bangalore, Kolar Goldfields, one at the Saw Mills, Trichur, and one at the Singarani collieries. These boilers were located outside the jurisdiction of the Act and yet inspections were made after sanction was obtained from the authorities concerned. Four boilers were examined in Coorg under the orders of the Government. The House may probably remember that a part of the administration of Coorg is conducted by the loan of officers from Madras. Furthermore 19 boilers were examined in vessels in inland waterways under the orders of the Government.

"Now, I ask whether this bulk of work done in one year could be regarded as so insignificant as not to justify the existence of a separate inspectorate for doing that work and whether it can be urged that if the duties of factory inspectors are amalgamated it will still be possible for the existing number of officers to carry them on satisfactorily? Is it therefore asking too much of the House to concede that the number will certainly have to undergo increase as things stand at present?

"Now, something was said about Bombay ; it was urged that the province of Bombay is the richest in India with an industrial development even unimaginable and that therefore we should not indulge in comparisons with that province. However I wish to say one word, i.e., the number of boilers inspected in Bombay by any single inspector in a year is 238 as against 500 inspected by a single inspector in the Madras Presidency.

"Then again, Sir, in the next year's budget we have taken credit for a sum of Rs. 48,500 on account of probable receipts which are expected by the inspection of boilers by our staff. If you are going to suggest the amalgamation of the two, it would necessarily result in work not being done so thoroughly and so efficiently as to lead to a large number of boilers being uninspected and the rate of progress so far achieved being considerably hampered for want of close and vigilant supervision over the boilers. It would also mean that the duty imposed upon Government will be considerably neglected, the plant and machinery employed in our factories will be allowed to run its own way leading to risks and catastrophies which again might result in danger to life and property. This certainly will not redound to the credit of any responsible Government. I may add that if you find a larger number of inspectors in the budget for the next year, it was not merely that we wanted to increase them without any justifiable cause. I wish to assure the House at once that from statistics we found that the number of works inspected from year's end to year's end has gone on increasing to such an extent as to render the addition of establishment to cope with that work

24th March 1922] [Mr. Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Sahib]

absolutely imperative. We began only with 139 boilers in this Presidency in 1897-98 and this rose up to 1,300 in 1916-17. We expect the number to be nearly 2,000 in the year of grace 1922-23. When therefore there is a progressive increase in numbers and when therefore the bulk of work goes on increasing in proportion, a similar increase in the staff should also be inevitable. Let us remember that the more the number, the larger the number of inspections and the greater the receipts realized from that source. I do not wish to add much more on this subject except to answer one or two points mentioned by a member from the bench beyond.

"It was suggested that the inspectors conducted their inspections on one day in one corner and on another day in an altogether different corner of the Presidency, thereby insinuating that these inspections are conducted more or less to qualify themselves for something like a substantial travelling allowance. I may at once affirm that these inspections could not be conducted according to anything like a previously prepared programme. For the inspector has no knowledge as to where his services would be requisitioned to-morrow. He may suddenly receive a telegram for inspection of a new boiler in one corner, or for the inspection of a boiler which has gone out of order in another corner, or an anonymous complaint that a particular boiler is running contrary to the condition of the licence. He must at once bundle up his luggage and start, it may be to Ganjam to-day and to Tinnevely the day after as his duties may demand."

MR. A. SUBBARAYUDU :—"May I know if there are many such calls for urgent inspections?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur HABIB-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—"Numerous, I would underline the word."

"Finally, Sir, I should certainly not have spoken at such length in connexion with this motion except for the fact that my department was referred to in the course of the debate."

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"My friend Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar referred to the fact that one or the other of the officers had recently sent up a report for the amalgamation of the two systems. It is either the Chief Inspector of Steam-boilers or the Chief Inspector of Factories. I dare say that proposal is before the Government and perhaps it is having their attention. Then, I think, the question may be examined in the light of that report and whatever conclusion we may then come to may be acted upon. I would rather suggest that the whole question may be looked into by the Finance Committee and the matter then decided finally. That is the only suggestion I would make."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—"Sir, this question of the amalgamation of these two departments is one of importance purely from the point of view of economy. I am certain that every hon. Member of this House is aware of the extremely unwise step of getting rid of the inspection of steam-boilers by the inspectors, and I am also certain that it is absolutely unnecessary to convince us—as the hon. the Revenue Member referred to the numerous inspections—that this step is intended for public safety, and it is not one which this Council would like to take away. But, Sir, the whole question is one of organization of services. Some difference has been made by the Royal Commission on Public Services in their report between these two departments, but they took care to point out

[Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao Pantulu] [24th March 1922]

that each province can develop these two departments as it liked. In fact they say in page 122 on the Factory and Boiler Inspection departments as follows :—

“The functions of the factory and boiler inspectors are not necessarily interchangeable. In fact in most of the provinces the two sets of officers have no connexion with each other, and are recruited separately for separate duties and on separate terms. We have decided, therefore, to deal with their cases separately, but in one annexure, as in certain of the less industrially developed provinces the staffs have not yet been differentiated.”

“Then they indicate that in certain provinces these two departments consist of a combined service for discharging these two functions but which are discharged by two separate sets of hands. At the same time, the hon. Sir Charles Todhunter himself told us that in 1919 the question of the amalgamation of these two departments was taken up and considered, and therefore if any hon. Member has put forward a proposal for the very same amalgamation which the hon. Sir Charles Todhunter had to consider, I think it is not surprising and it is certainly not an unreasonable proposition. At the same time, I feel, I think other hon. members also feel, that by cutting down this allotment by Rs. 40,000 we may be exposing the public to a certain amount of danger. As a matter of fact, this question was considered in 1919 and the amalgamation was again suggested by some other officer to whom reference has been made by Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar. I think the whole question has to be examined by some committee which in the present case should be the Finance Committee of this Council. I therefore suggest that this question may be set at rest just at present at this stage and the question of the amalgamation of these departments may be considered in the light of the report of 1919 and in the light of any subsequent report that might have reached Government. I trust that the strenuous way in which this question has been advocated here is sufficient indication that every hon. Member of this House desires the amalgamation, and it is somewhat queer that there should be one officer for the inspection of boilers in the factories and another officer for the inspection of the factories themselves. It means a duplication of the staff, and, so far as I am able to see from the qualifications laid down in the Royal Commission's report, there seems to be not much difference between them. I do not think that the Government is objecting to an amalgamation but the whole trouble seems to be the question of the services, the difficulty of recruitment, the place of recruitment, the conditions of service and all the questions with which we have been made so familiar during the last four or five days, but these ought not to be a ground for putting off amalgamation. I trust therefore that all the papers in connexion with this question will be placed before the Finance Committee and a considered decision come to on this question.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“Having listened carefully to the debate on this important question and having regard to the difficulty that I feel in giving my vote one way or the other, I have resolved, with the permission of the Council, to make two appeals: one is to the Government, and particularly to my friend the hon. the Finance Member, and the other to my friend Mr. Tanikachala Chettiyar, the mover of this resolution. As I said, Sir, I find there are valid arguments on both sides of the question and I feel considerable difficulty in voting for this proposition one way or the other. The appeal that I have to make to the Government Members, and particularly to the hon. the Finance Member, is to have this question examined once again. I say once again, because this question was once examined in the Finance Committee; but after that examination some light has been thrown

24th March 1922]

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

on this question by the debate in this Council, so that my appeal to the hon. the Finance Member is this, to have this question more carefully examined in the Finance Committee in the light of all the information that has now been elicited and in the light of the documents that have been referred to in this debate. If the Government and the hon. the Finance Member will give that undertaking—and I am sure they can have no reasonable objection to give it—to have that question examined further, I should make an earnest appeal to my friend Mr. Tanikachala Chettiyar to withdraw this resolution. As the hon. Sir Lionel Davidson said two or three days ago—I do not approve of the word he used—a ‘catchvote’ or whatever it is—I believe, Sir, this important question should not be settled by discussion on a motion for reduction of a portion of a grant, but it requires more elaborate examination. The question is particularly important and it becomes more important especially after the Factories Act comes into operation in July; so that I request my hon. Friend to give that undertaking, namely, to have this question examined more completely in the Finance Committee, and if my hon. Friend on behalf of the Government gives that undertaking, I would request my friend Mr. Tanikachala Chettiyar to withdraw his motion.”

The hon. Sir LIONEL DAVIDSON:—“I was not here during the earlier stages of this debate; otherwise I should have taken the first opportunity to say that this very question of the amalgamation of the two staffs arose directly out of those passages in the report of the Royal Commission on Public Services from which Mr. Ramachandra Rao was reading just now. It was one of the most troublesome questions that I had to deal with when I first became an Executive Councillor. It caused me a very great deal of trouble, and I took particular pains to examine the issue and personally question those in a position to give valuable information on the subject. That was a little over three years ago. The conclusion at which I then arrived—a conclusion accepted by the Government—was that the amalgamation of the factory and boiler inspection staffs would be radically unsound, because of the difference in the qualifications required and the impracticability of combining the two classes of work. At that time I was perhaps in a better position impartially to deal with the question than my hon. colleagues, Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar and Mr. Habib-ul-lah Sahib, because the steam-boiler and the factory staffs were both under my control and I had to balance one department against the other. Not very long after the question of the recruitment of officers for both staffs came under my attention and necessitated orders on several occasions. We had to advertise for suitable persons, and the qualifications requisite and the qualifications said to be possessed by the various applicants in their applications, which were received by the score, were absolutely different for the two sets of appointments. I went laboriously through long lists of individual applications for the two different sets of appointments and I can assure the House that there are radical differences between the qualifications requisite. Nothing would be more rash than hastily to assume that it is possible to combine the duties of a boiler inspector with the duties of a factory inspector. I am quite satisfied that a detailed examination of that issue, if it is accompanied by actual visits to factories and by actual presence during boiler inspections, will convince any unprejudiced person that the two sets of officers are and must be kept separate and that it would be a retrograde step to let Madras revert to the backward condition denounced in the Public Service Commission report with regard to some of the provinces

[Sir Lionel Davidson]

[24th March 1922]

of India where the conditions are so undeveloped that the two staffs are still united. I imagine, Sir, that the appeal which has been made for a postponement of any hasty decision on this very important issue will be responded to by those concerned and that we shall not be asked to carry by division a vote the consequences of which might be very disastrous."

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" May I say, Sir, so far as I am concerned, I shall only be very glad to place this matter before the Finance Committee for a thorough re-examination. We are shortly to have a new Finance Committee, and I feel sure that they would bring an open mind to the examination of this question as I shall endeavour to do myself."

Mr. O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR :—" In view of the appeal made by my hon. friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar and the very generous undertaking given by the hon. the Finance Member, I do not press the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 636 to 644.

The following motions were not made :—

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—

636. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 61,850 for inspector of factories by Rs. 100.*

Mr. W. VIJAYARAGHAVA MUDALIYAR :—

637. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 61,850 for inspector of factories by Rs. 40,000.*

Mr. T. ARUMAINATHA PILLAI :—

638. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 61,850 for inspector of factories.*

Rao Bahadur P. C. ETIRAJULU NAYUDU :—

639. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 61,850 for inspector of factories by Rs. 40,000.*

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—

640. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 61,850 for inspector of factories by Rs. 40,000.*

Mr. C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—

641. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 61,850 for inspector of factories.*

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—

642. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 31,920 cost of 5 inspectors by cost of 2.*

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—

643. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 78,100 for establishment by Rs. 10,000.*

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—

644. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 78,100 for establishment.*

The Council then adjourned at 5-30 p.m. to meet again at 11 a.m. on Saturday the 25th March 1922.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.